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Lebanon

An Iranian intelligence officer who was operating under the cover of a radio correspondent was killed during an Israeli raid on Jibshit two weeks ago, according to a newspaper report cited in the clandestine Voice of the South radio. The Iranian agent was reportedly in Jibshit to supervise operations against IDF and South Lebanese Army forces, according to the radio.

Iraq

The oil minister has dismissed as "rumors" reports that Baghdad has contacted Damascus authorities about reopening the Iraqi pipeline across Syria, according to INA. The minister also quashed Western reports alleging that Kurds have been exporting oil from Iraq's northern oil fields.

Palestinian Affairs

PLO chairman Yasir 'Arafat charged Mosad with the assassination of 'Atif Busaysu, the PLO's top security official, AFP reported. 'Arafat said that he had advised Busaysu before he traveled to Europe that he was a Mosad target. 'Arafat said the PLO had "lost a hero." Palestinian dissident Abu-Nidal (Sabri al-Banna) is also a suspect in the killing, AFP added. Citing a motive, sources suggested that Busaysu had "information" about Abu-Nidal that he could have handed over to Western intelligence services. A PLO-Fatah statement broadcast by Tunis radio said the "Zionist Mosad services" will not go unpunished for the "abominable crime." In the occupied territories, Amman radio reported that four Palestinians were shot by Israeli troops during unrest in Gaza's al-Shati' camp following news of Busaysu's murder.

Israel

Prime Minister Shamir said he "knows nothing" about the death of PLO intelligence official 'Atif Busaysu, Jerusalem radio reported. Meanwhile, both the Kahana Hay and the KAKH movements phoned the ASSOCIATED PRESS office in Paris to claim responsibility for the killing, according to HA'ARETZ. A Kahana Hay spokesman in Israel said the claim was was fraudulent because his group "opposes illegal activity," according to the paper. The KAKH Movement was reported to be unavailable for comment.

Kuwait

Kuwaiti National Council Speaker 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Masa'id said he criticized the U.S. ambassador to Kuwait because "he interferes a great deal," according to remarks he made in an interview with the London-based AL-MAJALLAH.

Egypt

Writer and thinker Dr. Faraj Fudah died from wounds suffered when he was shot by two gunmen on 8 June, MENA disclosed. The Interior Ministry said the two gunmen who carried out the attack were members of "extremist groups." Police managed to arrest one of the suspects.

Saudi Arabia

King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz has donated 30 million Saudi riyals "from his private account" for the Muslims of Bosnia-Hercegovina, while Prince Salman and businessman Mohamed Bin Saleh donated one million rials each, according to SPA. Prince Salman is chairman of the committee set up by King Fahd for helping Bosnia-Hercegovina.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Arab Ministers Pronounce Amman Talks 'Success'

JN0806114492 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 8 Jun 92 p 21

[Report by 'Abdallah al-Qaq]

[Excerpts] Amman—The foreign ministers of Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, and the representative of the state of Palestine reached a consensus that the four-way coordination meeting in Amman succeeded in unifying positions toward the peace process in the Middle East and in confronting the Israeli practices in the occupied Arab territories and southern Lebanon.

In statements to reporters, Foreign Minister Dr. Kamil Abu-Jabir said that the conferees expressed their willingness to pursue the peace process while continuing to abide by the need to regain all the occupied Arab territories in exchange for a peace that should be just, comprehensive, and lasting.

He added that the Arabs participating in the peace process denounced Israel's policy, which rejects the legitimate bases of the peace process, namely the UN resolutions stipulating withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories in exchange for peace.

Dr. Abu-Jabir said that the four parties also agreed to participate in the next round of bilateral talks with Israel that will be held in Rome following 23 June Israeli elections. They also supported Lebanon's call for an emergency Arab foreign ministers' meeting to discuss the Israeli attacks on southern Lebanon.

Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' held a news conference at the end of the four-way meeting in which he stressed the success of the coordination conference. He said: The statement issued following the conference accurately translates our expectations. [passage omitted]

Minister al-Shar' said: Throughout the peace process, we, as Arab parties, emphasize the need to implement UN Security Council Resolutions 242, 338. Otherwise, peace will not be achieved in the region.

Concerning Syria's participation in the multilateral talks, al-Shar' said: This will be possible once there has been essential progress in the bilateral talks. Otherwise, our position will remain the same. He noted that essential progress means accepting the bases of the peace process and implementing the above-mentioned UN resolutions that stipulate Israel's withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and the establishment of a just and comprehensive peace in the region.

Speaking about the arrest of a Syrian citizen in Spain, Mundhir al-Kassar, who works as an arms dealer and is accused of being involved in the U.S. airplane incident over Lockerbie, al-Shar' said that linking this man's name with Syria is absolutely unacceptable and reveals sinister intentions.

Al-Shar' said that, as far as he knows, al-Kassar holds an Argentine passport and, even if he holds a Syrian passport, he has been arrested and should be brought to trial, and Syria has no objection to that.

He wondered why news reports have been linking Syria's name to a violation that was allegedly committed by some individual. [passage omitted]

At a news conference, PLO Executive Committee member Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh said: The Amman meeting was successful. There was agreement to continue coordination and consultation among the Arab parties to the peace talks and to invite the brothers to enhance and reactivate Arab solidarity to protect joint Arab interests.

'Abd-Rabbuh called for adopting unified positions toward the arbitrary Israeli practices in the occupied Arab territories, particularly in the Gaza Strip, which has been under siege for the past two weeks.

'Abd-Rabbuh welcomed a comprehensive Arab summit, saying: Turning the page is necessary to overcome differences and divisions in the Arab positions. [passage omitted]

'Abd-Rabbuh said that the EC has expressed its support for free general elections in the occupied territories, but he did not disclose any details. [passage omitted]

'Abd-Rabbuh said that the world should offer the same assistance for holding elections in the West Bank as it did for the elections in Iraqi Kurdistan.

He wondered: If the international forces have enabled the Kurds of northern Iraq to hold elections under specific international supervision, then why shouldn't there be international supervision in the occupied territories to facilitate free and democratic elections, thus allowing the peace process to progress?

'Abd-Rabbuh said that the Palestinians will form local committees to oversee the elections and that they are in the process of preparing an electoral law based on the principle of one man, one vote.

He urged the Israelis—who are scheduled to elect a new parliament and consequently a new government on 23 June—to vote for the party that could push the Middle East peace process forward.

'Abd-Rabbuh said: We hope the Israelis will not waste this historic opportunity to achieve real and genuine peace among our countries and peoples in the region. Their votes will determine whether we will head toward peace or toward a complex situation that would wipe out this opportunity.

Islamic Affairs

Saudi Arabia Denies Searching Iranian Pilgrims

LD0806190892 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1755 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Jeddah, 8 Jun (SPA)—An official source sent a statement to SPA today denying AFP reports that Saudi security forces conducted unpleasant search operations on Iranian pilgrims on their arrival at Saudi ports. The Tehran-datelined reports, citing Tehran newspapers, were carried on 7 June. The source stated that everything that AFP reported in this context is untrue and that it has no foundation whatsoever. The source also referred to what ISLAM and KEYHAN published on 7 June as a desperate attempt to thwart efforts to improve Saudi-Iranian relations. The source stated: "We warn these newspapers of the consequences of publishing such lies and attempting to cause harm and provocation so that we may not have to confront them reluctantly with the silence they deserve."

ICO Head Thanks Iran for Recommending Meeting

LD0806162892 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 1430 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Hamid al-Ghabid, Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] secretary general, wrote Foreign Minister Velayati to thank the Islamic Republic of Iran for agreeing to the place and date set for holding the extraordinary session of ICO foreign ministers. He also thanked the Islamic Republic of Iran for suggesting that such a gathering occur to help Muslims suffering in Bosnia-Hercegovina.

Palestinian Affairs

'Arafat Chairs PLO Executive Council Meeting

Praises Jordan's Husayn

JN0806161592 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1505 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Excerpt] His Excellency Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine, praised the committed pan-Arab position Jordan adopted about the Palestine issue under His Majesty King Husayn's leadership. He added that this shows the depth and coherence of Jordanian-Palestinian brotherhood under all circumstances. These remarks came in a statement the Palestinian president made to our correspondent for political affairs, along with other reporters, at the end of the Palestinian leadership's meeting held under his chairmanship at the Guest Palace in Amman today. This is the first meeting to be chaired by 'Arafat following his successful surgery at King Husayn Medical Center and his resumption of normal duties.

[Begin 'Arafat recording] I am pleased to meet today with our brothers in the PLO Executive Committee and the Palestine National Council chairmanship, as well as with the Palestinian leaders staying here in Amman. On this occasion, I would like to reiterate my gratitude to my brother His Majesty King Husayn for his care. This shows the fraternity and the committed, principled position we are used to seeing in His Majesty King Husayn. This also shows the Palestinian-Jordanian brotherhood, which cannot be affected under any circumstances; rather, it is witnessing more strength and coherence. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Information Official Describes Meeting

JN0806135892 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1300 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] The PLO Executive Committee held a meeting at the Guest Palace in Amman today, chaired by Yasir 'Arafat. Discussion during the meeting focused on the peace process, the Israeli measures against the kinfolk in the occupied territories, and the upcoming Israeli elections.

Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh—member of the PLO Executive Committee and head of the PLO Information Department—told the JORDANIAN NEWS AGENCY that this is the first Palestinian leadership meeting that has been convened under 'Arafat since his successful surgery at the al-Husayn Medical Center and his return to normal activities. He said that the Palestinian leadership expressed thanks and gratitude to His Majesty King Husayn for his great care for 'Arafat during the surgery he had last Monday. During the meeting, the Palestinian leadership stressed the ties of cordiality and brotherhood and the existing fateful cohesion between the two brotherly peoples—a cohesion that will continue to exist for the sake of shared goals.

He noted that a number of important issues were discussed during the meeting, in particular the continued Israeli siege imposed on the valiant Gaza Strip and the measures urgently required to lift this siege. He said that the conferees also reviewed the results of the four-way meeting held in Amman among the foreign ministers of the four states [Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, and the PLO]. He affirmed that the results of this meeting have bolstered coordination among the participating parties. He noted that these results stressed the importance of and need to upgrade joint Arab action toward a complete coordination to push the peace process forward based on concern for pan-Arab interests.

New Details of 'Arafat's Operation Disclosed

JN0906093892 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 9 Jun 92 p 23

[Report by Tawfiq 'Abid]

[Text] Palestinian sources close to President Yasir 'Arafat disclosed new details about President 'Arafat's surgery at the al-Husayn Medical Center last Monday [1 Jun].

The sources told AL-DUSTUR at the guest palace at noon yesterday that the medical team that treated

'Arafat achieved a new miracle with the surgery it carried out on 'Arafat. The sources said the doctors sucked out 140 cc of blood from 'Arafat's brain—an operation that could have resulted in paralysis at least, if not death, if complications had arisen in the five days following the operation.

The sources added: Divine providence and the doctors' skill intervened for the second time in two months to save President 'Arafat's life for the third time in the past 22 years.

The sources said President 'Arafat will return to al-Husayn Medical Center after one week—or 10 days at most—for further checkups.

The sources explained to AL-DUSTUR that Yasir 'Arafat's left hand—which he could not previously move easily—is now returning to normal, thus confirming the operation's success.

'Arafat Appoints New Fatah Lebanon Leaders

NC0906082792 Beirut AL-SHIRA' in Arabic 8 Jun 92 p 6

[Text] PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat formed a new command for the Fatah Movement in Lebanon as follows:

Yunus 'Awwad, official in charge of Beirut.

Fathi Abu-al-'Ardat, official in charge of Sidon.

Munir Miqdah, official in charge of al-Zahrani and al-Nabatiyah.

Zayd Wahbi, official in charge of Iqlim al-Kharrub and the mountain.

Sultan Abu-al-'Aynayn, official in charge of Tyre.

Al-Haj Rif'at, official in charge of Tripoli.

Anwar Madi was appointed commander of the Fatah militia in Lebanon.

Further on Assassination of PLO's 'Atif Busaysu

'Arafat Charges Israeli Mosad

NC0806130892 Paris AFP in English 1235 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Nicosia, June 8 (AFP) - PLO chairman Yasir 'Arafat on Monday charged that the Israeli intelligence agency Mosad was behind the murder in Paris of the Palestine Liberation Organization's top security official.

'Arafat told reporters in Amman he had advised 'Atif Busaysu, shot dead outside a Paris hotel overnight, that he was a Mosad target before the slain official travelled recently to Europe.

"I warned my brothers in the Palestinian leadership to be on the lookout, as Mosad would be following each of us, particularly ahead of the Israeli elections" scheduled for June 23, 'Arafat said.

'Arafat said the PLO had "lost a hero, but Mosad must understand that it will not always have an open road."

Busaysu, born on the Gaza Strip in 1948, was killed outside the Meridien Montparnasse Hotel in central Paris by shots fired from a pistol equipped with a silencer.

The assailant or assailants fled the scene.

Busaysu had been in Paris for talks with French police on providing protection to Palestinian officials living in France.

In Cairo, PLO representative Sa'id Kamal told AFP he had informed the Arab League last week of an Israeli plan "to assassinate members of the Palestinian leadership" before the Israeli elections.

He said he had told Arab League Secretary General 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid that the PLO had received warnings "from foreign intelligence services" on possible attacks on Palestinian leaders and officials later in the month.

Kamal said that, based on information in his possession, the plan originated in the Likud bloc of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and was designed to boost the stature of the coalition ahead of the elections.

He added he feared the murder of Busaysu "represents only the first stage in the application of the plan."

Bassam Abu-Sharif, a senior 'Arafat adviser, told the Middle East service of Radio Monte Carlo: "The Israelis killed him, as certain groups want to scuttle the (Middle East) peace process."

In Damascus, the PLO faction, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP], also accused Israel of the attack and urged the French Government to make public the results of a police investigation.

"There can be no doubt that the Zionist enemy kills children on the (Israeli) occupied territories and southern Lebanon and pursues those who struggle for the right of the Palestinian people to exist," the PFLP declared in a statement.

Busaysu had been an assistant to Abu-Iyad [Salah Khalaf], who until his assassination January 14, 1991, had been responsible for PLO security. Busaysu assumed Abu-Iyad's responsibilities, although he was never officially named to his post. He was formally designated the PLO official "in charge of external operations in Europe" and was responsible for the security of Palestinian figures there.

'Abd-al-Rahman Busaysu, a cousin of the victim, told AFP here that the slain official left a wife and three children, a girl of seven and twin boys aged two, all of whom lived in Tunis.

PLO, Fatah Blame Mosad

LD0806142892 Tunis Tunisian Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1300 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] A PLO and Fatah statement stressed that the abominable crime the Zionist Mosad services conducted will not go unpunished and that Israeli Prime Minister Shamir will not be happy with his ugly crime. The statement called on the world conscience and the international community to condemn Israel, which commits its savage crimes against the right of the Palestinian people under Yitzhaq Shamir's official supervision within the context of the state's policy of organized terrorism that the Israeli Government sponsors and implements.

Israel 'Categorically' Denies Charges

NC0806151492 Paris AFP in English 1454 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Tunis, June 8 (AFP) - The Palestine Liberation Organization on Monday accused Israel in the murder in Paris of its top security official and vowed that the killing would be avenged.

The death of 'Atif Busaysu "will not go unpunished," the PLO warned in a statement here. The communique reiterated accusations made earlier in the day by PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat that the Israeli intelligence agency Mosad had been behind the overnight killing in Paris. "The martyr and militant 'Atif Busaysu was assassinated in Paris by two agents of the Israeli intelligence service Mosad ... using revolvers with silencers," the PLO charged.

In Israel, government spokesman Ehud Gol "categorically denied" that Israel had had a hand in the murder of Busaysu.

The 44-year-old official was gunned down overnight outside the Meridien Montparnasse Hotel in central Paris, where he had come for talks with French police on providing protection for Palestinian officials living in France.

Demonstrators Protest Assassination

JN0806201292 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] A Palestinian source stated that four Palestinians were injured today by gunfire from Israeli troops who intervened to disperse demonstrators at the al-Shati' camp in the occupied Gaza Strip after the assassination of PLO official 'Atif Busaysu. The source stated that dozens of Palestinian youths participated in this demonstration and hurled stones at the Israeli soldiers. The al-Shati' camp is only 3 km away from the al-Rimal district, 'Atif Busaysu's birthplace in Gaza city. Israeli soldiers used plastic bullets and tear gas grenades. Two of the wounded were evacuated to a Gaza hospital. The condition of one of them was described as critical. A three-day period of mourning was declared in Gaza to lament 'Atif Busaysu's assassination.

Abu-Nidal Named as Suspect

NC0806190692 Paris AFP in English 1825 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Amman, June 8 (AFP) - Palestinian dissident Abu-Nidal [Sabri al-Banna] is a suspect alongside the Israeli intelligence service Mosad in the killing in Paris of 'Atif Busaysu, the PLO's top security official, Palestinian sources here said Monday.

The sources, suggesting a motive, said the security chief like his slain predecessor Abu-Iyad [Salah Khalaf] had information on Abu-Nidal that he could have handed over to Western intelligence services. Abu-Iyad was assassinated in January 1991 by a bodyguard who is reported by the PLO to have confessed that he belonged to Abu-Nidal's organisation, the Fatah Revolutionary Council.

Busaysu was exchanging security information with French authorities, the sources said, declining to be identified. Abu-Nidal had previously been in charge of coordination with Paris.

The Palestine Liberation Organization and its leader Yasir 'Arafat have accused Mosad of carrying out the killing of Busaysu, who was shot dead outside his hotel overnight Sunday. Israel denied the charge.

Presidential Adviser Comments

LD0806180192 Tunis Tunisian Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Bassam Abu-Sharif, Palestinian presidential adviser, described today 'Atif Busaysu's assassination as an example of Israel's contempt for the peace process and an attempt to provoke the Palestinians. In a statement received by TAP, he said that continued Israeli terrorism will harm the peace process. He holds the United States and Europe particularly responsible for halting Israeli terrorism inside and outside the occupied territories. Abu-Sharif said that the news conference he held in Sanaa five days ago—as well as reports made available to the PLO leadership—warned that the Mosad planned to assassinate a number of Palestinian leaders living abroad as well as dozens of active members of the people's resistance inside the occupied land.

Other Palestinian Leaders Said Targeted

JN0906095192 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 9 Jun 92 pp 1, 22

[Report by Tawfiq 'Abid]

[Excerpts] Yasir 'Arafat, Palestinian president, said the Israeli Mosad is behind the assassination of 'Atif Busaysu, official in charge of the PLO's security affairs. [passage omitted]

Well-informed Palestinian sources stated that there is an Israeli plan to assassinate four Palestinian leaders, including Busaysu, who was assassinated in Paris yesterday morning.

The sources told AL-DUSTUR that two of those targeted within this plan reside in Amman. The sources, however, declined to give further details about their identity or the nature of their work. They explained that security measures have been stepped up to foil the Zionist plan. [passage omitted]

U.S., European Pressure Urged on Israel

PM0806177292 Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 3 Jun 92 p A9

[Report on interview with Palestinian chief negotiator Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi by Lars Bostrom in Gaza; no date given]

[Text] Gaza—The Middle East peace talks have reached deadlock that threatens to wreck the whole process. The alternative is chaos, violence, and new bloodbaths, Palestinian delegation chief negotiator Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi told DAGENS NYHETER in an interview.

"We find ourselves in a blind alley, particularly when it comes to the question of limited autonomy," he said. "So far the Israelis have refused even to discuss our demands for control over land and water resources in the occupied areas."

In everyday life, Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi heads the Red Crescent in Gaza—the Muslims' equivalent of the Red Cross. His work place is in a modest building on a side street in Gaza City, a few blocks from the Mediterranean Sea.

Gaza is still sealed off during our visit, and a tense calm prevails in the little enclave where 700,000 Palestinians are squeezed into an area of little over 200 square kilometers.

According to 'Abd-al-Shafi, there is only one way to break the deadlock and that is increased U.S.—and European—pressure on Israel. The months following the U.S. presidential election in November will be crucial, he believes.

Until then it is simply a case of keeping the peace process alive, and not letting it die completely. But then the Americans must act. If they do not adopt measures and take steps to curb the Israelis' implacability, there is hardly any point in continuing the peace talks," he said.

Israel wants a new round of talks even before the Israeli elections on 23 June, but 'Abd-al-Shafi does not think that this will happen.

"My impression is that we and the other Arab delegations will say no to a possible U.S. invitation," he said. "We prefer to wait until after the elections. In the present situation there is no point at all in holding any talks."

'Abd-al-Shafi does not think that the Israeli elections will have a favorable effect on the peace process, regardless of who wins.

"The differences between Likud and the Labor Party are tactical," he said. "At bottom the two blocs have the same attitude."

"But," he added, "new conditions can create new situations, and we are trying to be open to all eventualities."

Just like many other Palestinian leaders, 'Abd-al-Shafi is cautious about making statements that can be interpreted as support for the Labor Party, well aware that this would be exploited immediately by Likud in its election propaganda.

The most recent sealing-off of the Gaza Strip is a collective punishment after the murder in the Israeli town of Bat Yam of a 15-year-old girl 10 days ago. The culprit was a Palestinian from Gaza.

"I do not understand why we are being given the blame for this," 'Abd-al-Shafi said. "It is not a case of planned attacks but of acts carried out by desperate and frustrated people. Indirectly the responsibility lies with Israel, since the violence is a product of the situation here."

According to 'Abd-al-Shafi, the Palestinian people's patience with the peace process is running out. The Muslim fundamentalists in the Hamas movement, which opposes the peace talks, are thought to enjoy the support of one third of the population in Gaza and on the West Bank. At the same time the Intifadah has changed character and has been partially brutalized from within.

"I am afraid that the united leadership of the intifadah no longer has control over events," he said, alluding primarily to the murders of Palestinian "collaborators."

In 'Abd-al-Shafi's analysis it is the fundamentalists and other radicals who benefit from the situation he calls the "absence of peace." So are the Israelis.

Is he disappointed with the peace process?

"In the light of what I know about Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and his ideological background, I have never expected any rapid breakthroughs," he said. "Possibly our most important achievement so far has been to improve the Palestinians' image in the eyes of world opinion."

Algeria

Saudi Arabia Reportedly Admits Financing FIS

LD0806125792 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] In a statement to be published by EL MASSA today, the Saudi ambassador to Algeria admitted that his country was behind the financing of several Islamic movements, among which was the dissolved Islamic Salvation Front [FIS]. The Saudi ambassador also said that he used to receive Mr. Abassi Madani [FIS leader, currently detained] on a weekly basis.

Trial of FIS Leaders To Be Held 27 Jun

LD0906024992 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 2200 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] The national radio has learned today that the trial of the leaders of the Islamic Salvation Front, FIS, scheduled for 27 June at Blida military court will be held in open session.

Chiekh Amhed Sahnoun, Yousef Benkhedda, and Ahmed Kiouane had earlier demanded the immediate release of the FIS leaders, lifting the state of emergency, closing down the security centers in the south and compensating the victims.

Boudiaf Calls on Nation To Confront Crisis

LD0906043692 Algiers ENTV Television Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Address to nation by Higher State Council Chairman Mohamed Boudiaf, in Algiers—live]

[Text] In the name of God the merciful; the compassionate. Prayers and peace be upon the most honorable of all prophets. Brothers and sisters: I was given the opportunity several times to express myself about the crisis which our country has been experiencing for about five months. We have been eager to restore the prestige of the state, restore public security, civil peace and try to revive the national economy.

Every time I study the dossiers and everytime I meet with officials and listen to the citizens I meet, I become more convinced that Algeria has numerous resources to surmount the crisis. Among these I state the following:

Rich human resources of workers and excellent cadres with cultural and technical qualifications and potentials for a constructive initiative. Important natural mining and agricultural resources which must be reformed in a better manner. Structural bases and an industrial and infrastructure base though it may be in need of care and urgent repair. [word indistinct], mobilization and a commitment to define the objectives with clarity. Projects should also include a future outlook.

There is no doubt that working towards this end will lead us to facing great difficulties, and obstacles which we can overcome. Here I would like to say that whichever project is started it always has some difficulties ("but) the nations which want to build and which have a will are the ones which will overcome their problems and difficulties. I believe that the Algerian people have energy; men and young men have the will to overcome these problems just as we overcame difficulties in the past.

I recall some of those obstacles. ("We found that the more any society turned inwardly on itself the more it became close to the world and to progress). It sometimes went along backward mentalities to the extent that it created divisions within the same family. An academic and formal political discussion that does not touch upon the real problems of the country and does not conclude with practical suggestions—the aim of which, in my view, is to maintain personal positions. A training system that was unable to adjust itself with the needs of our economy and the realities of a modern society. The obstruction attempts by those enjoying privileges of those with dubious interests, the dealers in bribes, the supporters of the previous regime and those who vehemently resist change.

Here I am confident that some people do not seek the interest of the country because they might not have any privilege nor responsibilities, and ("as if they are on the margin). Responsibility will not last forever. However, we are the servants of this homeland and responsibility is always limited in itself. We know the responsible person must do good deeds and when the people no longer need him he must step aside and let someone else occupy his place.

I am very sorry that the policy and propaganda of some political personalities are now meaningless. This of course creates confusion, and this is not in the interest of the homeland nor the people. The problems are obvious and the solution is also obvious. Therefore, I appeal to you today and ask you to help me in marching forward through the commitment of every one of you to be by my side so that we will together be the political force capable of enforcing the fundamental change which we all hope for.

For this purpose, committees of the Patriotic Rally must be formed in every village, every district and every work place. Indeed, the time to make the choice has come and we can not wait any longer. We must not be satisfied with partial solutions. We must be firmly committed to change.

Algeria needs all of its sons now just as it did on 1 November. It needs once again to mobilize all of them. For such mobilization to be effective, it will have to rest on a national project with the following pivots:

First, setting up a pluralistic democracy within the framework of the state of law which guarantees pluralism and rotation and which urges sound political values.

Second, developing a modernized economy which is open to the world through eradicating an economy which depends on easy income and through developing a market eecomomy, redefining the role of the state and giving greater value to work and effort.

Third, building a society of fairness and solidarity in order to combat injustice and unemployment and to resolve housing problems. The text of the premise which will be put forward to the citizens contains the general principles and pivots of the national project which is open to discussion and enrichment within the activities of the Patriotic Rally.

In this context, I would like to make a correction: The premise was written and will be distributed throughout the Rally. Everyone is requested to give us their views so that we can expand and make amendments. This Rally does not issue orders, nor does it have a defined policy. It is a framework for revival and dialogue so that we can make of this premise a project for saving the country from its crisis.

The Patriotic Rally addresses itself to those political parties which follow the path of progress and change and to which I reach out again, as I had done last 19 January, thus excluding those who call for violence or for turning back. I call on all who would like to give help at this historic phase and reiterate that the Patriotic Rally will not be the result of opportunistic compromises or of the bargains of professional politicians. The Rally is open to all social segments, without any exception, and to all political tendencies.

I am saying to the organizations and associations that the Patriotic Rally is not a political party, and more, it is not a single party. It is proposed that it becomes a framework of protection for all those who believe in the capabilities of the Algerian people. This rally would be the foundation on which would be based the support to the work of the Higher State Council, and it would be the means available for its members to exercise the role of a counter-power, i.e le contre-pouvoir [previous three words in French] at all levels.

Finally, the Patriotic Rally would enable all, men and women who are not affiliated to any organization, or who are victims of marginalization, to find room for expression, (?expressing) ideas and participation. The Patriotic Rally would also endeavor to bring out honest political cadres which seek to develop the country.

In this context, I must speak about some issues raised by some parties, namely national reconciliation and dialogue. We are of those who want reconciliation and dialogue, but I should like this dialogue to take place within a framework, and the large and good framework is that of this Patriotic Rally, because some parties and some bodies perhaps disagree with the [word indistinct] process.

A change occured in Algeria; some say it is a military or a police coup, others do not recognize this. At any rate, these people have the freedom of expression, but [words indistinct], the day they return to the democratic process, soon, God willing, these people may come forward and (?work). They are free, and then the sole arbitrator will be the Algerian people.

Another question: There is a rumor being spread to the effect that the government is to go, that this government is not good. I am saying that the current government has the confidence of the Higher State Council, and there is harmony between them. At any rate, one can criticize any government, but criticism should be constructive, in the interest of the people, the national interest [word indistinct].

But to these empty rumors that Mr. Ghozali is leaving, I say that he is not leaving. For this reason, I say to these people: This government has a responsibility and it is working. At any rate, perhaps it is not exempt from criticism; it is human, but this goverment has our confidence, and we are cooperating with it to resolve problems. [Words indistinct] but the rumors being spread are groundless, and this would lead us only to chaos and dispersed ideas. Thus, the way is charted for rebuilding the confidence between the base and the summit and for restoring the self-confidence of Algerian people and their confidence in the country.

Will we have the necessary courage to confront reality? Will we have enough energy to rid ourselves of our divisions and enlist ourselves for defending our national values and the supreme interest of the country? Will we have the necessary energy to meet the challenge which is imposed on us by the world and let our country occupy its place among nations? Will we be able to seize the historic opportunity which is at our disposal today?

I consider it to be a historic opportunity because for the first time since independence that the authority is calling on the people to organize themselves and enter with it into a discussion and an exchange of ideas in the national interest. This did not happen in 1962. One wonders if the people in 1962 had something else in mind. In any case this is not the time to discuss this issue, but I say that it is a precious opportunity because the current authority wants to cooperate with the people and its dynamic energies to solve the problems which the crisis is facing. This crisis has various aspects and we consider that the solutions will not be forthcoming unless we have harmony between the summit and the base and unless there is confidence.

Today, the authority is prepared to discuss and exchange ideas with regard to what concerns the temporary solutions and may God reconcile us so that in the near future we will return to the democratic process. One of the objectives of the Higher State Council is to give this country a legitimate authority which is elected by the people and which has the confidence of the people.

The answer to all these questions, namely, what are these obstacles and difficulties, I say that the answer to all these questions is yes, and yes. This is possible only when

our only incentive, our only guide, our only slogan is Algeria first and before evreything else. It is God who bestows success. Peace, mercy and blessings of God be upon you.

Egypt

Mubarak Issues Message Marking 'Jerusalem Day'

NC0606150292 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1210 GMT 6 Jun 92

[Text] Cairo, 6 Jun (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak appealed to the international community to cooperate and make concerted efforts to free Jerusalem from occupation, so that it can remain a distinguished and holy city, as the international community has decided. He also called on the international community to demand "with the necessary firmness and decisiveness" that the Israeli occupation authorities stop their unilateral policies and measures that block solutions and that Jerusalem remain free and not be exploited or possessed. This came in a message that President Mubarak addressed today to the ceremony at Arab League headquarters marking Jerusalem Day. The message was read by Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa.

Mubarak emphasized that the continued Israeli occupation of the Arab and Palestinian territories of the West Bank and Gaza cannot establish a right or become legal no matter how long it continues, because it is based on religious claims, illusions distorting historical facts, and excuses reflecting expansive designs. He said that what applies to the occupied Palestinian land applies with the same logic and criterion to Arab Jerusalem, which constitutes an indivisible part of the occupied territories. UN resolutions declare the Israeli presence in these territories illegal and the Israeli acquisition of them inadmissible.

Mubarak pointed out that the unilateral policy endorsing the status quo in the city and changing its demography through settlement precludes a fair settlement to the problem. All countries, big and small, agree that negotiations—and not deciding the city's final status in advance through unilateral measures—will lead to a fair settlement in the context of international legitimacy and recognition of the right to restore the occupied territories through complete Israeli withdrawal within the framework of the peace process.

The following is the text of Mubarak's message:

During these blessed days, millions of faithful hearts long for the sacred sites in the holy cities of Mecca and al-Madinah. Millions are en route to these sites to answer the call of Ibrahim, the father of prophets, may peace be upon him.

At these moments of great devotion, hundreds of millions of people around the world turn their gaze toward Islam's third holy site, al-Aqsa Mosque in blessed Jerusalem, the first qiblah [direction Muslims face during prayers] before Mecca and the site of the Prophet's masra [night journey to heaven].

Jerusalem will always have a special place in the hearts of believers in the three God-given religions: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. All of these monotheistic religions have a special veneration for Jerusalem, conferring a unique status on that city. Jerusalem combines the spiritual heritage of the followers of the three major religions: Jews, Christians, and Muslims. Jerusalem is a reminder of the basic unity of the three religions and a symbol of the peace that should govern the religious practices and daily conduct of their followers. It is no wonder that the city is called the city of peace. We should not doubt that peace is the ultimate objective and that peace on earth will be achieved on the day peace returns to this city.

The holy city of Jerusalem has enjoyed a lofty spiritual status throughout its history. The aggression against its sacred sites and the usurpation of Arab sovereignty since 1967 has been rejected and denounced by every section of the international community. For over forty years, the United Nations has envisioned a special status for Jerusalem [word indistinct] that could serve as a starting point for serious efforts to find a just and lasting solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Palestinian issue, which is at the heart of the conflict.

Continued Israeli occupation of Arab and Palestinian land in the West Bank and Gaza, regardless of its duration or nature, cannot create rights or establish legitimacy. It is based on claims that are falsely attributed to a religion, illusions that distort history, and excuses for expansionist dreams.

What applies to the occupied Palestinian territories applies, in the same manner, degree, and logic, to the Arab city of Jerusalem, which is an integral part of those territories. International conventions and resolutions are unambiguous in their ruling that the Israeli presence in the occupied territories is illegitimate and that these territories should never have been seized.

The policy of imposing a status quo on the city and changing its demographic composition through settlement is holding any future just solution hostage. The entire world agrees that negotiations, without any prior determination of Jerusalem's final status through unilateral measures, is the proper way to reach a just settlement. Such a settlement must be reached in the framework of international legitimacy and ensure the restoration of the occupied land, and lead to Israel's full withdrawal in the framework of the peace process.

When Israel made a unilateral decision in the early 1980's to annex the holy city and declare it its capital, the international community ruled the decision illegitimate. Israel's decision was made contrary to the clear wishes of the international community and in opposition to international conventions and resolutions, all of which state that such a unilateral measure is invalid, along with all its consequences.

Jerusalem's legal and historical status, and its cultural and spiritual significance to the three God-given religions, suggests a common heritage for all humanity that ought to be respected. Therefore, Jerusalem's geography, demography, and ancient sites should not be manipulated to serve goals and interests that are inspired by policies of occupation, settlement, and expansion—policies that ignore Palestinian rights to the land and sovereignty over the holy city.

Past and current events in Jerusalem are aimed at creating an illegitimate status quo. They reflect illusions that are foisted on history and insincere intentions aimed at undermining the peace process and reversing a commitment to the concept of land for peace, the equation on which the current negotiations are based.

The just and lasting peace we seek should guarantee peace for everyone without discrimination. Rights should not be squandered for the sake of security, nor should land be abandoned for the sake of coexistence. The principles of sovereignty and national rights are not negotiable.

Egypt and its Arab brothers showed their goodwill when they went to the peace conference in Madrid and when they continued to walk willingly on the rugged and thorny road of peace, along with the international community. Egypt and the Arabs base their decision on two issues: security and justice, inseparable twins. Security cannot endure without justice [words indistinct], and justice cannot thrive unless mutual security is guaranteed for every country and nation involved.

On this basis, Egypt has stressed the linkage between legitimacy and settlement, between security and justice, and between land and peace. These concepts are inspired by history, legitimacy, and the portents of a new world whose outlines are being revealed every day. This new world has no place for aggression and does not recognize usurpation or occupation. We all raise the banners of justice, security, and peace.

The fruits of peace cannot grow and survive without good soil that is rich with the needs of life. Undoubtedly, respect for legitimate rights, national sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity, and the inviolability of borders are needed for coexistence between peoples and civilizations free from injustice, monopolization, or aggression.

Our precious Jerusalem will be beyond the reach of the ambitious. Calls for love will be heard, not the drums of war. Its skies will be filled with the chants of shaykhs, monks, and priests.

We are eager to see the entire civilized world mobilize efforts and resources to preserve the universal humanitarian heritage of the holy city, for the sake of future generations, to whom we owe the same rights our grandfathers and predecessors owed us.

Dear guests, while we celebrate an anniversary filled with meaning and feeling, we are eager to appeal to the entire international community to rally and unite to release the holy city from the shackles of occupation and domination in order to maintain its unique position and status, as has been decided and called for by the international community. We urge the international community to call on the Israeli occupation authorities with the necessary firmness and decisiveness to stop following a road that is fraught with dangers—the road of policies and unilateral measures that block solutions and do not open doors, and to make Jerusalem a free city without any preferences, monopolization, or exploitation.

Jerusalem will remain an immaculate place that radiates with the light of love and peace, where people live, where civilizations grow, and where hearts and minds meet in justice, right, and safety.

May God help us and give us success.

'Abd-al-Majid Marks Jerusalem Day

NC0606204892 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1410 GMT 6 Jun 92

[Excerpt] Cairo, 6 Jun (MENA)—Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, Arab League secretary general, gave a speech at the ceremony held at Arab League headquarters today to mark Jerusalem Day. He noted that the Arab position emphasizes the need to implement all articles of the Security Council resolutions, focusing in particular on the basic inadmissibility of acquiring land by force. It seeks to achieve the principle of land for peace, to restore Jerusalem as the capital of a Palestinian state, and to guarantee freedom of worship and of exercising the rites of all religions at the holy places.

'Abd-al-Majid said that the Arab position also stresses the Palestinian people's right to determine their own future and to exercise their inalienable national rights, including the rights stipulated in UN General Assembly Resolution 194. It also emphasizes the need for Israel to avoid increasing tension in the region by continuing to build settlements, and to halt any action that obstructs the peace process. He hailed the Palestinian intifadah and appealed to the international community to implement international law with regard to the Arab-Israeli conflict so that peace can be achieved in the region.

Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat sent a message to the ceremony, noting that Israel is currently implementing two very serious settlement plans. The first is "Jerusalem 2,000," which aims to obliterate the traces of Arab and Islamic civilization in Jerusalem and to Judaize all surrounding Arab areas. The second is Sharon's plan, "The Seven Stars," which aims to abolish the Green Line that was established between Israel proper and the West Bank in 1967. In his speech, read by Palestinian ambassador in Cairo Sa'id Kamal, 'Arafat appealed to the Arab brothers to step up their efforts on the international scene to stop these violations. He also called on the five permanent members of the Security Council to use their

influence to force Israel to implement the UN resolutions. He appealed to all Arab peoples to intervene to save the Palestinian people and their sanctities. He hailed the Palestinian people in the occupied land and the heroes of the glorious intifadah.

Shaykh Jad-al-Haq 'Ali Jad-al-Haq, rector of the al-Azhar Mosque, also made a speech. He exhorted Muslims in the East and West, rulers and ruled, to cooperate to retrieve holy Jerusalem from the Zionists and to stop the desecration of Jerusalem. He appealed to the international community—represented by the United Nations, international law, and world organizations—to pay attention to the holy places, address the issue of Jerusalem and Palestine, and restore rights to their owners. He praised the Arab League efforts in this field, stressing the importance of continued efforts until holy Jerusalem is liberated and the Palestinian people return to their land and establish an independent state.

Coptic Pope Shinudah sent a message that was read by Youths Bishop Rev. Musa. He emphasized his advise to Copts throughout the world not to go to Jerusalem until after its liberation and after all hearts unite "so we can enter the beloved city as one man, one heart, and one mind." He denounced attempts by certain people to mix Christianity and Judaism, stressing the existence of substantial contradictions between them. He said that Zionism means expansion, killing, and displacing people, whereas Christianity is a religion of peace and love. He noted that Christians aspire to visit the Church of the Holy Sepulcher and the sites that Christ visited in holy Jerusalem. He said that Muslims aspire to visit the al-Aqsa Mosque and the Islamic sites there. He said that all people are waiting for the day they can visit these places. He denounced the Israeli occupation forces' deeds in the holy places and their terrorist actions against Palestinians in the occupied land. [passage omitted]

U.S. 'Silence' Toward Israel Criticized

NC0706152492 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2120 GMT 6 Jun 92

[Text] Cairo, 6 Jun (MENA)—Commenting about Lebanon's tribulations, AL-AKHBAR notes the Israeli military operations on the territory of Lebanon, an independent and sovereign member of the United Nations that has never committed any aggression against its neighbors.

In Sunday's editorial, the paper views the suspicious silence of the U.S. Administration toward the constant Israeli violations. The Israelis use all types of weapons, obtained free of charge from the United States, to carry out killing and random destruction in south Lebanon. This silence raises a number of questions about U.S. intentions, which are supposedly aimed at giving impetus to the Middle East peace process.

The Shamir government is using these weapons under the noses of the U.S. taxpayers, the paper adds. Every day the Israelis spill blood and demolish houses and buildings over the heads of those living in them. This does not give the impression that the peace efforts are serious.

AL-AKHBAR continues: Silence implies acceptance in every language in the world, or at least that what is happening is not important. Is this not Washington's reaction to Israel's uninhibited actions against the people of south Lebanon?

Referring to President George Bush's threat to use military force to stop Serbian attacks against Bosnia-Hercegovina, the paper says: This is a noble stand and a credit to Bush. But is Israel's stance toward Lebanon and the occupied Palestinian territories different from that of Serbia toward Bosnia-Hercegovina?

Al-AKHBAR asks: Why does the United States turn a blind eye to the crimes that Shamir and his forces are perpetrating against Lebanon? Why does the U.S. President not issue a similar warning to Israel's leaders, or at least express his clear and frank opinion of what is happening in this small Arab state?

Concluding its editorial, the paper says: Continued U.S. silence on these acts, which are threatening a massacre like that of the Israeli invasion of 1982, will completely destroy any hope of peace as well as U.S. credibility.

Ambassador to Yugoslavia Recalled Over Violence

NC0606161192 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2143 GMT 5 Jun 92

[Text] Cairo, 5 Jun (MENA)—Egyptian Ambassador to Belgrade Husayn Hassunah returned to Cairo tonight in accordance with Egypt's decision to recall its ambassador to protest the violations perpetrated by the new Yugoslav Federation—the republics of Serbia and Montenegro—against Muslims in Bosnia-Hercegovina. Upon his return, Ambassador Hassunah said that the situation in the new Yugoslavia is completely new, noting that the Yugoslav people feel internationally isolated following the imposed sanctions by the UN Security Council.

Hassunah said that the Yugoslav leadership is responsible for the current situation there, adding that many Arab and Islamic countries, including Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco, Sudan, and Iran, have followed Egypt's example and recalled their ambassadors. He said he expects the Islamic countries to adopt a unified resolution on this issue during the Islamic foreign ministers conference in Istanbul on 17 June.

Ambassador Hassunah described the current events in Bosnia-Hercegovina as tragic and said that the Muslims, which comprise 44 percent of the republic's population, suffer from the continuous bombardment of Sarajevo. He said that Sarajevo's residents do not have survival rations of food or medicine, adding that international humanitarian aid does not reach them because the airport is closed.

He noted that international sanctions will not have an immediate affect, because Serbia and Montenegro are fully self-sufficient in food and fuel.

He added, however, that prices recently soared to exorbitant levels and that long lines have begun to appear in grocery stores and gas stations. He said this will have a direct effect on the Yugoslav people's attitudes.

He explained that historical factors and ancient ethnic problems between the Serbians, Croats, and Muslims in Yugoslavia hamper attempts to clear the atmosphere between these conflicting groups.

Ambassador Hassunah asserted that Egyptian action on the Yugoslav crisis has been effective and influential at all the international forums where this crisis has been discussed. He said that the Muslims of Bosnia-Hercegovina have sensed Egypt's positive attitude and contacted the Egyptian Embassy in Belgrade to express their appreciation for this stance, adopted under the leadership of President Husni Mubarak.

He reported that he advised the Egyptian community in Sarajevo to leave the city, explaining that some of them did so but others decided to remain there due to personal reasons.

Ambassador Hassunah concluded his remarks by saying that he will submit a detailed report to Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa tomorrow, Saturday, on the current situation in the former Yugoslav republics.

Serbian Withdrawal From Bosnia Demanded

NC0606155492 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1229 GMT 6 Jun 92

[Text] Cairo, 6 Jun (MENA)—Egypt welcomed the withdrawal of Serbian forces from Bosnia-Hercegovina.

In a statement today, Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa said Egypt demands immediate completion of the withdrawal, an immediate halt to threats against the people of Bosnia-Hercegovina, and establishment of peace and stability on its territory. He added that Egypt is monitoring the issue with great interest. He pointed out that developments in Bosnia-Hercegovina will be discussed during the emergency meeting of Islamic foreign ministers in Istanbul on 17 and 18 June.

Musa said Egypt not only stresses the need for withdrawing Serbian forces but also the need to halt aggression in any form, whether internal or external or through using regular or irregular forces.

Musa Reviews Peace Talks With Palestinian Group

NC0706050092 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1730 GMT 6 Jun 92

[Text] Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa met tonight with a visiting Palestinian delegation led by PLO Executive Committee member Mahmud 'Abbas.

Following the session, 'Abbas said that he and Musa reviewed the outcome of the bilateral and multilateral talks. 'Abbas said the two discussed ways of strengthening future peace, which will take place following the Israeli elections and the October multilateral talks.

Concerning the meeting of the Arab countries participating in the peace talks, which met today in Jordan, 'Abbas said that the goal of that meeting is to coordinate Arab positions during the bilateral talks.

'Abbas said that the Israeli Government is obstructing the peace process, adding that the Israeli delegations to the bilateral and multilateral talks have not presented any new ideas. 'Abbas said that Israel is trying to frustrate the peace process through the arbitrary measures it takes.

Concerning rumors that Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat will visit Cairo, 'Abbas said that the Palestinian president is currently recuperating and that he will visit Cairo when he gets better. He noted that 'Arafat had been scheduled to visit Cairo before he had surgery.

Al-Baz, Sudanese Official Discuss Relations

NC0606152792 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1247 GMT 6 Jun 92

[Text] Cairo, 6 Jun (MENA)—Dr. Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs, met today with 'Ali 'Uthman, Sudanese Foreign Ministry under secretary, who is currently visiting Cairo.

During the meeting, they agreed to convene the Joint Egyptian-Sudanese Committee in Cairo before the end of June. They also discussed ways to improve relations between both fraternal countries in various fields.

Swazi Prime Minister Arrives for Visit 6 Jun

NC0706073892 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1929 GMT 6 Jun 92

[Excerpts] Cairo, 6 Jun (MENA)—Swazi Prime Minister Obed Dlamini, his wife, and a delegation comprised of the foreign minister, commerce and industry minister, and the deputy speaker of the People's Assembly [title as received] arrived in Cairo this evening. [passage omitted]

The Swazi prime minister said that during his visit he will discuss trade and ways of bolstering economic and political relations with Egypt. [passage omitted]

Tunisian Official Arrives for Visit 6 Jun

NC0706050192 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 2000 GMT 6 Jun 92

[Text] Sadok Fayala, Tunisian secretary of state for African affairs [title as heard], arrived in Cairo tonight on a three-day visit.

He will hold talks with Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa to discuss current African issues and to coordinate the countries' positions at the African foreign ministers and summit conferences, scheduled to be held in Dakar at the end of June. They will also discuss ways to strengthen bilateral relations in various fields.

Writer Faraj Fudah Shot, Killed in Cairo

Suspect Arrested

NC0806214192 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2034 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Cairo, 8 Jun (MENA)—Dr. Faraj Fudah, a writer, was the target of an assassination attempt this evening. Two unidentified people shot at him as he was walking to his car on a street in the Heliopolis area of Cairo. He was taken to the hospital for treatment.

According to preliminary information, two people riding a motorcycle were responsible for the assassination attempt. One of them was arrested, but the second escaped.

'Extremist' Groups Blamed

NC0906061792 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2055 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Excerpts] Cairo, 8 Jun (MENA)—The Interior Ministry announced that the two people who carried out the assassination attempt on writer Dr. Faraj Fudah this evening are members of extremist groups. The perpetrator 'Abd-al-Shafi Ahmad Ramadan carried a pistol and a number of bullets when he was arrested. [passage omitted]

The text of the statement issued by the Interior Ministry about the attack on writer Dr. Faraj Fudah in the Nasr area this evening follows:

At about 1845 today, Dr. Faraj Fudah was leaving his office on 2 Asma' Street in Nasr, accompanied by his son Ahmad, 15, and Wahid Ra'fat Zaki, one of his clients, when a motorcycle carrying two people suddenly appeared. The person sitting behind the driver carried an automatic weapon. He fired several shots, hitting Dr. Faraj Fudah in the abdomen and slightly wounding his son Ahmad and Wahid in the foot.

Dr. Fudah's driver and two policemen from the Nasr division were able to detain the man who opened fire. His name is 'Abd-al-Shafi Ahmad Ramadan; he resides in al-Zawiyah al-Hamra' and is a member of the extremist groups. He was carrying a pistol and a number of bullets when he was arrested.

The motorcycle used in the attack was also seized. It turns out that it was stolen. The driver managed to escape with the automatic weapon his colleague used in the attack. The identity of the fugitive has been established and he is now being sought.

The wounded were taken to the al-Mirghani hospital where a team of doctors are supervising their treatment.

Interior Minister Muhammad 'Abd-al-Halim Musa and senior security officials went to the scene of the attack. They also visited the wounded to inquire about their health. The public prosecution was notified and began investigating.

[Cairo MENA in Arabic at 0606 GMT on 9 June reports: "Writer and thinker Dr. Faraj Fudah died at 0130 today from the wounds he suffered when he was shot last night. This was stated by sources at al-Mirghani Hospital, where he was taken after the incident for treatment."]

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi Meets With Trade Union Members

LD0906091192 Tripoli JANA in English 0819 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Text] Tripoli, al-Sayf [Jun] 9, JAMAHARIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The leader of the revolution met with the General Union of Passenger Transport, the General Union of Cargo Transport and the General Union of General Transport.

During his meeting with members of these unions, the leader of the revolution listened to the problems and difficulties which the workers in these unions are facing as well as the role played by the unions in providing services to the people. Specifically, he heard about the problems they are experiencing with a number of companies and other concerns. This, they said, had adversely affected the provision of the best possible services to the people at the lowest possible prices.

The leader of the revolution called on the masses of these sectors to form peoples committees which they can administer to ensure the application of the peoples authority through those who have the best interests of all at heart. The leader stressed on the need to ensure that popular authority is invigorated by means of direct participation in it.

During this meeting, the leader of the revolution emphasised that, with this method, once the peoples authority was firmly in place, and once the masses of all sectors have their freedom, only then will the people be able to do away with those things which do not benefit them in any way. Furthermore, they will be able to decide what is best for them. Thus, the masses will then be receptive to this established authority.

The leader of the revolution spoke to the members of these unions and said that if anything was being forced upon them against their will then they had the right to change this and that they even had the right to go on strike.

The leader of the revolution went on to say that the world wonders why strike action has never been taken in

Libya. In response, he said, we told the world that this is because the Libyan people are able to change authority at any time they wish given that they are in control, namely, that peoples authority exists. As for you, the leader continued telling the world, you have a government which no one is able to change. Thus, your people go out on strike and your companies employ workers as slaves, then the workers demand higher wages. The employers, naturally, refuse these demands, and the workers again go out in protest. The leader said that these problems had been solved in Libya given that the situation is Libya is different than in other countries.

The leader of the revolution then stressed on the need to ensure that this privileged state of affairs which the people of the Great Jamahariyah enjoy, is not lost, and that true liberation is achieved. [words indistinct] government' mentality exists and an authoritarian mentality and that bodies still exist which try to interfere and wield influence on the peoples authority, these forces which should have disappeared.

He said that the most important thing is that the peoples authority should be established by the masses which will allow all to do away with all those undesirable things and to entrench [word indistinct] things which are desirable. He said that they (the members of the unions) had no part in administrative distribution for the Great Jamahariyah. Indeed, he said, the most important thing is that the popular sectors are those who are in control and it is they who are responsible for organising administration.

The leader of the revolution continued telling the members of the [word indistinct] 'we would like to see you forming a committee with which you can manage your affairs and assume responsibility for any decision it makes. He said 'you are free to form a committee in every sector or you can combine them. Again we repeat that you are free and feel free to establish that authority which you desire.

General People's Congress To Convene 13 Jun

LD0806150992 Tripoli Great Jamahiriyah Radio Network in Arabic 1230 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] The Secretariat of the General People's Congress summoned the Congress to convene. Here is the full text of the summons:

From the Secretariat of the General People's Congress:

In accordance with Law No. 9 of 1984 regarding the organization of the people's congresses; General People's Congress Decision No. 10 of 1987 about the issue of [word indistinct] list of the people's congress; and General People's Congress Decree No. 1 of 1990 about the election of the Secretariat of the General People's Congress: Article 1: The General People's Congress is summoned to convene on Saturday, 12 Dhi al-Hijjah 1401 after the prophet's death, corresponding to 13 June 1992 at 1000 at al-Wafa' hall in the town of Sirt.

Decree Issued on Forming Jihad Fund Committees

LD0906083692 Tripoli Libyan Television Network in Arabic 1930 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] The Secretariat of the General People's Congress issued a decree about forming committees to collect donations for the Jihad Fund [sunduq al-jihad]. The decree provides for establishing a committee in every municipality of the Great Jamahiriyah and their administrative branches.

Pilgrims Protest Resolution 748 at Saudi Embassy

LD0806135792 Tripoli Great Jamahiriyah Radio Network in Arabic 1230 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Libyan pilgrims staged sit-down protests in front of the Saudi Embassy in Tripoli this morning to protest the unjust crusading resolution Number 748, which prevents them from performing this year's pilgrimage duty.

The pilgrims, wearing their pilgrimage garments, chanted slogans condemning this unjust resolution that they contend humiliates Muslims everywhere. They stressed that heeding orders other than those of God is blasphemous and sacrosanct.

The Libyan pilgrims call on Muslims everywhere to be aware of the dimensions and goals of the crusading, spiteful plan as materialized by the NATO Resolution 748. The sit-down protests will continue for three days.

Al-Bishari, Maltese Counterpart Discuss Relations

LD0906083192 Tripoli Libyan Television Network in Arabic 2046 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] The brother secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for External Liaison and International Cooperation [Ibrahim Al-Bishari] met this evening in Tripoli with the Maltese deputy prime minister and foreign minister, Guido De Marco. During their meeting, they discussed the friendly relations that exist between the Great Jamahiriyah and Malta and ways to bolster these relations in the interests of both friendly peoples.

Sudan

'Full Text' of Abuja Talks Communique

EA0806204592 Khartoum SUNA in English 0937 GMT 8 June 92

[Text] Khartoum, 8 Jun (SUNA)—The SUDAN NEWS AGENCY (SUNA) here under re-publishes the full text of the communique of the Sudanese peace conference held in Abuja, Nigeria, 26 May-4 June.

The parties to the Sudanese conflict, namely the Government of Sudan and the Sudanese People Movement Liberation Army [as received] [SPLM/SPLA], met in Abuja, Nigeria, from 26 May-4 June. All parties to the

dispute agree that [the] current conflict can only be resolved through peaceful negotiations. They therefore agree to continue their discussions under the good offices of President Babangida, even after he has left office of chairman of the OAU, in order to build upon the gains achieved in Abuja.

The need for equitable sharing of national wealth: Toward this goal, it was agreed that the interim agreement shall include a revenue allocation commission to deal with the equitable sharing of wealth among the component parts of the country.

The parties to the dispute recognize that Sudan is a multiethnic, multilingual, multicultural, and multireligious country. They recognize the diversities of Sudan and the need to work towards an institutional political arrangement to cope with and encourage such diversities, as [is] the case in Nigeria.

The parties agreed to work towards an interim arrangement aimed principally at allaying the fears of the component parts of Sudan, building confidence, and to enable the component parts to develop in an atmosphere of relative peace and security. The parties however agreed to consult their principals with a view to determining the structure and character of the interim arrangement as well [to] ascertain the wishes of the people concerned thereafter.

The parties to the dispute recognize that the war has caused dislocation of families and the destruction of the infrastructure in Sudan. The Government of Sudan and the interim administration will use the interim period, with the assistance of the goodwill of the international community, to embark upon a deliberate process of reconstruction of war affected areas and the rehabilitation and resettlement of refugees displaced by war and famine.

[The] parties to the dispute agree to support efforts aimed at creating a conducive atmosphere towards for [as received] continued negotiations. All parties to the dispute agree to meet [at a] time to be fixed by Nigeria to discuss mainly the question of political interim arrangement for the transition period.

The parties to [the] dispute express deep appreciation and gratitude to President Babangida for the initiative in calling the peace conference. They also thank the people of Nigeria for the hospitality extended to them.

Delegation of the Government of the Sudan:

(1) His Excellency Muhammad al-Amin Khalifah, speaker of the Transitional National Assembly.

(2) His Excellency Brigadier George Kongor, governor of Bahr al-Ghazal State.

(3) His Excellency Dr. Husayn Sulayman Abu Salih, minister of social welfare and development.

Delegation of the SPLM/SPLA:

(1) Commander William Nyuan Bany [Deng]

(2) Commander Dr. Lam Akil Ajawin, deputy leader of the delegation

(3) Mr. Elijah Malok Deng, secretary to the delegation

Observers from the Federal Government of Nigeria:

(1) Dr. Tunji Olagunju, honorable minister of internal affairs

(2) Colonel Lawan Gwadabe [as received]

(3) Ambassador (Oiu Sanu) presidential special envoy on the

Sudan conflict

Reportage on Abuja Talks: Government Statements

Negotiations With Rebels Important

EA0506152092 Omdurman National Unity Radio in Arabic 1315 GMT 4 Jun 92

[Text] Lieutenant General 'Umar al-Bashir, chairman of the Revolution Command Council and the Council of Ministers, has stated that Sudan attaches great importance to negotiations with the rebel movement, pointing out that the points of dispute which appeared during the negotiations were not serious and that they could be ironed out through negotiation.

This transpired during his intermittent meetings with media representatives. Lt. Gen. 'Umar al-Bashir said that Sudan had demanded that the solution be within the context of a united Sudan. He pointed out that the Nigerian Government had submitted a paper on federalism, which is acceptable as far as the Sudanese Government is concerned. He underscored the government's keen interest in the negotiations with the rebel movement.

On the other hand, Lt. Gen. 'Umar al-Bashir disclosed that the Armed Forces and the People's Defense Forces scored great successes during the recent Sayf al-Ubur military operations, saying that the Armed Forces had succeeded in entering Bor, the rebel stronghold, without resistance. Our forces, he added, have also taken the rebels by surprise in Kapoeta and defeated them.

His Excellency said that the Terakeka forces, under the command of Colonel (Kolomon), have succeeded in securing a great chunk of land and that the northwestern Juba area was now fully secure. He went on to say that the sons of the Mondari ethnic group have now started to leave the rebel movement to give themselves up at Terakeka. Likewise, a great number of the local people have also come over from Bor and Pibor. Lt. Gen. 'Umar al-Bashir said relief operations in these areas were still under way even though the rebels are threatening to shoot down relief planes. His Excellency stressed that Pochala and Pibor areas are now fully secure and that there is no rebel presence in those areas.

Al-Bashir Commends 'Flexible Spirit'

EA0806071592 Khartoum SUNA in English 1750 GMT 7 Jun 92

[Excerpt] Khartoum, 7 Jun (SUNA)—The chairman of the Revolution Command Council, General 'Umar al-Bashir commended Monday [as received] the flexible spirit [which] characterized the government delegation to Abuja peace talks.

Gen. Bashir, speaking at the Council of Ministers meeting Sunday [7 June] explained that this flexibility [words indistinct] to unify the Sudanese [word indistinct] to realize peace [word indistinct] similarly (?the) Nigerian President Babangida for sponsoring the talks. Gen. Bashir affirmed that the government is now preparing for the next round of talks with the rebellion movement and intensifying at the same time efforts in the field of development of the southern states.

He said peace signs have appeared now based on the government credibility. The voluntary return of thousands of the rebellion movement's supporters at Nuba mountain to their (?home) areas was one of these signs. He said the government has offered food materials and clothes to those returnees, as well as providing them with agricultural inputs to preserve their dignity. [passage omitted]

Statement Details Government Position

EA0506215892 Khartoum SUNA in English 1640 GMT 5 Jun 92

[Text] Abuja, 5 Jun (SUNA)—The Sudan delegation to [the] Abuja peace talks has issued a statement in which it gave a detailed explanation on the position of the government delegation towards the questions of [word indistinct] and the unity of the Sudan.

The statement has pointed out that at the end of the Abuja peace talks meetings, the government delegation would like to seize the opportunity for expressing its gratitude for President Ibrahim Babangida and the Nigerian people for hosting the talks with such a generosity and hospitality. The Nigerian mediation team has steered the negotiations with all but firmness and objectiveness [as received], the statement said, expressing [the] hope that Sudan would be given the opportunity to reciprocate to Nigeria and its people in (?happier occasions) [word indistinct].

The statement has also expressed appreciation "for our brothers in the other two groups for their cooperation that gave the Abuja meeting a Sudanese flavor." It said the Abuja spirit, which has a Sudanese spirit, has refuted the weak claims propagated by the enemies of the Sudan and "has shown the unity and uniqueness which characterized our great nation".

"We are all hope that when negotiations are resumed, the delegation of the rebellion movement will turn in [as received] with full delegated power and practical proposals," the statement said.

On the issues of secularism and the unity of Sudan, the statement said that the delegation did not come to Abuja as [a] representative of the north, [according] to some presumptions, because, it explained, the formation of the delegation and the mandate it has given reflects the aspiration of the Sudanese majority both in south and northern Sudan, Muslims and non-Muslims, and expressed their desire for living in Sudan that mirrors the diverse people. The [word indistinct] has to be clearly and firmly stated to the rebellion movement that the unity of Sudan is not liable to discussion. On the point of secularism, the statement said the question was in its appearance a one that said there should be no dominant religion in the state. If secularism means that [the] state should not impose a given religious point of view, there will be no disagreement in this interpretation, for we are not seeking to give the state a mandate for intervening into the religious questions that are personal beliefs, the statement said. It added that we equally are not seeking to impose a given religion for steering the affairs of the state, and the state is after all an entity that reflects the desire and will of the nation.

Rebel Delegation Statement on Abuja Peace Talks

EA0606125592 Khartoum SUNA in English 0915 GMT 6 Jun 92

[Text] Abuja, 6 Jun (SUNA)—The rebel movement [on] Thursday [4 June] issued a statement following the signing of the final agreement of Abuja talks.

The statement confirmed that the southern Sudan problem should be resolved through peaceful negotiations and under the sponsorship of the Nigerian President Ibrahim Babangida, even after leaving office as chairman for the OAU.

The statement has also pointed [out] that the Sudan should be unified under [a] secular constitution.

It is also said that efforts could still be made towards [the] working [out] of [an] interim arrangement which would allay the fears of the component parts of the Sudan, build confidence, guarantee relative peace and security and ensure appropriate devolution of powers under a confederal system of government for the southern Sudan.

The statement has also reassured that the parties have agreed to meet again when called upon by Nigeria to discuss the question of interim arrangements for the transitional period.

'Heavy Fighting' as Rebels Attack Juba Garrison

AB0806213092 Paris AFP in English 2011 GMT 8 June 92

[Excerpt] Nairobi, June 8 (AFP)—Sudanese rebels said Monday [8 June] they had attacked the government's biggest garrison in the south, Juba, following inconclusive peace talks last week in the Nigerian capital Abuja.

The rebel Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA), which has recently suffered a series of bruising defeats, said its forces attacked Juba, the southern capital, early Sunday and had occupied Army headquarters for three hours before withdrawing to the outskirts of the town. Independent sources confirmed that the rebels, fighting since 1983 to free the black African and mainly Christian and animist south from Islamic domination by the Arabised north, had entered Juba.

Heavy fighting was reported in the town for several hours, but the sources said the government had regained control of the town and had imposed a curfew from six p.m. to five a.m.

The attack was mounted by the SPLA faction still loyal to the movement's founder John Garang after a split divided the movement into two rival groups last year. In a press statement received here, the faction said its forces had also captured six garrisons around Juba and had taken up positions three to 10 kilometers (two to six miles) from Army headquarters in the town. It claimed that the government forces had suffered heavy casualties.

The rebels said they decided to launch the attack, code named "Operation Jungle Storm," two days after the peace talks "closed down in failure" because the government had ruled out either a new secular constitution for a united Sudan or a referendum on self-determination for the south. [passage omitted]

Rebel Battalion Reportedly Surrenders 6 Jun

EA0706123092 Omdurman Sudan Broadcasting Service Network in Arabic 1930 GMT 6 Jun 92

[Text] The Armed Forces official spokesman, Major General Muhammad 'Abdallah Uwaydah, has stated the following: Responding to the call of peace and as a result of the security situation and the full control imposed by your Armed Forces and the Popular Defense Forces on the theater of operations, on 6 June at 1000, a whole battalion of 750 fighters with all their weapons and equipment surrendered at Tali. The battalion is made up of the sons of Mondari, Latuka, and other Equatoria tribes who defected from the rebellion and joined the ranks of the homeland.

The battalion's surrender is a matter that confirms the sincerity of the revolution and that its just voice, which ensures provisions for all, guarantees that an honorable life has reached the people. This mass defection from the rebel movement—seen in Upper Nile in the defection of the Abu Shawk battalion, in southern Blue Nile by the (Maban) Battalion, and by others from Southern Kurdufan—is a response to the sincere voice, strengthened by proof of its sincerity and the revolution's earnest work.

The leaders of the surrendering battalion stated their full conviction about the futility of remaining with the rebel movement and its failing and tyrannical leadership. They affirmed that John Garang and those Dinka rebels remaining with him are perpetrating the most heinous acts of killing and torture against other tribes, which have confirmed their wish for surrender and peace, after the revolution's and Armed Forces' sincerity became clear to them.

However, the rebellion leadership responds to this wish to surrender through torture and killing and has turned the non-Dinka tribes into ammunition and luggage porters. They also confirmed that the outlaws' morale has collapsed and that they are living in hunger and complete disunity, and have now become highway robbers, armed gangs, and pillagers of women and children.

On the other hand, the military command and Tali residents received the surrendering battalion in a brotherly and honorable way, joyously welcoming them by dancing and shooting in the air and giving them food and water.

God is the greatest; glory to God, his Prophet, your Armed Forces, the Popular Defense Forces, and the friendly forces. Long live Sudan and its internal font.

Bahrain

Air Force, Navy Hold Maneuvers With U.S.

JN0906060892 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1930 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Manama, 8 Jun (WAKH)—A responsible source at the General Command of the Defense Force of Bahrain has stated that the Bahraini Air Force and the Bahraini Navy are holding a joint exercise with units from the friendly U.S. forces in the region in the territorial waters and airspace of the State of Bahrain.

Kuwait

National Council Speaker on U.S. 'Interference'

PM0806111992 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 3-9 Jun 92 pp 30-32

[Interview with 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Masa'id, Kuwaiti National Council speaker and AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM publisher, by Husayn 'Abd-al-Rahman in Kuwait; date not given: "I Will Not Nominate Myself for Election; I Criticized the U.S. Ambassador Because of His Interference"]

[Excerpts] ['Abd-al-Rahman] Why was AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM closed? Was it a political closure?

[Al-Masa'id] We are passing through difficult times. That is why we decided to wait a little before AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM takes its place again. One of these difficult circumstances is the fact that in Kuwait there is no printing press which could fulfill the printing requirements, and I was not able to bring one in within two months. We used to print the paper along with AL-QABAS using AL-RISALAH printers, which were primitive. We have now purchased printers for AL-NAHDAH and opened a credit for the purchase of printers for the paper [AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM].

['Abd-al-Rahman] Have you though about selling the concession?

[Al-Masa'id] I have never contemplated selling the concession, although I have been offered large sums for it. I refuse even to contemplate the idea.

['Abd-al-Rahman] It has been claimed that AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM's closure was a message to the government, because it has not offered you anything.

[Al-Masa'id] Yes, the government did not offer AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM anything despite the fact that it was Kuwait's first newspaper, published in 1961, and suffered much from the regimes, and despite the fact that it took honorable stands. [passage omitted]

['Abd-al-Rahman] You have, through your paper, attacked ambassadors, particularly the ambassadors who have visited the various government departments. Why these attacks?

[Al-Masa'id] We do not accept interference in our affairs by anyone, and these ambassadors are interfering in our internal affairs. That method has been rejected universally. Do you know of any ambassador who goes to government departments? They are domineering. They use these methods to win tenders through their support.

['Abd-al-Rahman] Why did you attack the U.S. ambassador in your articles in AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM?

[Al-Masa'id] Because he interferes a great deal.

['Abd-al-Rahman] Do you deny the favor the United States did us?

[Al-Masa'id] There are no favors. It is all about interests. We were the victims, not the United States. Our funds, our homes, and our families were lost. You cannot find a home in Kuwait where noone has been killed, taken prisoner, or robbed. The United States came to help because because of its own circumstances.

['Abd-al-Rahman] Is that not ingratitude?

[Al-Masa'id] No. If the members of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] had been united, we would not have sought the help of the United States and others. Who frightens us? Iraq? United, nobody can defeat us, but the United States and Britain want us to remain disunited and fragmented.

['Abd-al-Rahman] Can we be united in the absence of democracy and freedom of opinion?

[Al-Masa'id] What democracy and freedom are you talking about? If we unite, we can introduce the system we want and not have one made for us, as the communists used to do. As GCC, we must unite and introduce the system we want, and let the United States apply democracy in the United States. Blacks were massacred in Los Angeles the other day.

[Excerpts] ['Abd-al-Rahman] Were they thieves?

[Al-Masa'id] On the contrary, they were poor persecuted people who were portrayed as thieves. A black man was beaten up, but the case was heard by a white court. How could the blacks not resort to violence and riots? If they want us to have democracy, why do they not apply it in their own country?

['Abd-al-Rahman] Do you not believe that your attack on the U.S. ambassador embarrasses the government?

[Al-Masa'id] The government has nothing to do with it. That is my own personal opinion, which I am expressing.

['Abd-al-Rahman] But you are the National Council speaker.

[Al-Masa'id] In my view, I do not represent the council against the ambassador. I will write about his activities when AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM appears in a few days, and I will draw a cartoon of him, unless he keeps away from the departments and stops interfering in our affairs.

['Abd-al-Rahman] Do you not believe that the ambassador is active, and that is particularly why you attack him?

[Al-Masa'id] Who said he is active? He goes to the government departments and talks about democracy, which is lacking in the United States.

['Abd-al-Rahman] Why do you attack the opposition in Kuwait?

[Al-Masa'id] That is not opposition. We wish it were.

['Abdd-al-Rahman] Do you attack it because of your inability to succeed in the upcoming elections?

[Al-Masa'id] I do not need elections to become a deputy. Furthermore, those who oppose have interests linked to the government. [passage omitted]

['Abd-al-Rahman] After the crisis, can there be any doubt about the opposition's loyalty?

[Al-Masa'id] Yes. Their ugly faces appeared on London television. One of them said we want Iraqi withdrawal, revival of the National Council, and then we can talk about the borders. One who cannot be loyal to the family, "the regime," cannot be loyal to Kuwait. We have a 400-year heritage with this family. We have cooperated and stood together until we brought the country up to this level of prosperity, but the opposition does not want us to prosper. [passge omitted]

The government is committed and completely loyal to the public. Had there been another government, we would be homeless in the streets. The United States did not return us to our country. Had it not been for the wisdom of this government and the cooperation of Saudi Arabia, the GCC, Egypt, and Syria, we would not have returned or been liberated. As I said earlier, the United States came because it had its own interests.

['Abd-al-Rahman] We have noticed that sometimes you take a stand against the government.

[Al-Masa'id] If the government's views and policy are not good, then I oppose it.

['Abd-al-Rahman] Is that linked to your personal interests?

[Al-Masa'id] I have no interests with the government and no trade and no real estate. What I have is love for and faith in this country. [passage omitted]

['Abdd-al-Rahman] You criticize the U.S. ambassador and his behavior, but you have supported the U.S.-Kuwaiti security agreement.

[Al-Masa'id] International agreements are different from the practices of the ambassador. We now have a problem. We have to come to some agreement with the United States, although I believe that we need an agreement with Britain more than with the United States. Furthermore, the agreement is for 10 years. That should give the Gulf governments time to lay the foundation of their future.

['Abd-al-Rahman] You criticize the U.S. ambassador for going to the government departments, so why do you not criticize the National Council members who receive the ambassadors?

[Al-Masa'id] I am against them. I will caution the deputies if they receive ambassadors in their offices. Furthermore, the U.S. ambassador is telling the opposition that there is noboby but you in the arena, and he gives them a chance to intensify their opposition.

['Abd-al-Rahman] Are the National Council members acceptable for the next National Council elections?

[Al-Masa'id] Yes. Seventy percent of them will win and will become National Council members.

['Abd-al-Rahman] On what evidence?

[Al-Masa'id] They did the public some great services, more than the previous councils.

['Abd-al-Rahman] Will the National Council members succeed in the internal constituencies [al-dawa'ir al-dakhiliyah]?

[Al-Masa'id] Yes, but from the opposition only 10 will win. They should thank God if they win even that number. [passage omitted]

['Abd-al-Rahman] Do you intend to nominate yourself?

[Al-Masa'id] God forbid.

['Abd-al-Rahman] Why?

[Al-Masa'id] My health is the obstacle. I will devote myself to AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM. [passage omitted]

Government Cancels 'Id al-Adha Ceremonies

LD0806212492 Kuwait Radio Kuwait in English 1830 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] The Amiri Diwan has issued the following statement: The Amiri Diwan presents its sincere congratulations and felicitations to all the citizens, the Arabs, and Moslems in the State of Kuwait on the occasion of 'Id al-Adha [Feast of Sacrifice] wishing that it may return with welfare, peace, and blessings for the Arab and Islamic nation. In view of the absence of our POWs and hostages who are still unjustly detained in the prisons of Baghdad's tyrant and as their absence causes grief and pain to their families, relatives, and all the people of Kuwait who represent a unified family, the Amiri Diwan, in accordance with the order of His Highness the Amir, announces the cancellation of the official ceremonies on the occasion. His Highness the deputy amir and crown prince regret that he will not receive the well wishers for this year's 'Id. As the Amiri Diwan announces this, it prays to God Almighty to safeguard Kuwait and its people from all harm, to have mercy for our martyrs, to speed up the safe release of our PoWs, and to return this honorable occasion to Kuwait and its loyal people with welfare, happiness, and prosperity.

Saudi Arabia

'Source' Explains Position on Libyan Pilgrims

LD0906013592 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2150 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Jeddah, 8 Jun (SPA)—A responsible source today made a statement to SPA in which he said:

AFP reported in its bulletin last Friday, 4 June, of current Thi al-Hijjah, corresponding to 5 June, quoted preachers from mosques in Libya calling on their compatriots not to go to holy Mecca for pilgrimage. They said they do not accept the sacred places for pilgrimage under the administration or authority of any political arbitrary control preventing whom they choose to perform the ordinance of God.

This is in addition to JANA reports of the demonstrations and processions and slogans denouncing what it claims is the prevention of the Libyan pilgrims from performing pilgrimage this year.

The source added: In response to this artificial Libyan propaganda hubbub and out of the desire to reveal the facts to the Libyan people, it was imperative to explain intensive efforts and contacts of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia with the international and Arab organizations with the aim of enabling the Libyan pilgrims to perform the hajj this year and to facilitate their arrival to the sacred land by any means they choose.

The source said: Since the issuance of Security Council Resolution 748 providing for the air embargo against Libya, a resolution that all the states of the world, including the Arab and non-Arab states, have pledged to implement, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, prompted by its Islamic duty and its eagerness not to deprive the sons of the Libyan people of performing the fifth pillar of Islam [pilgrimage], and given that the Kingdom has the honor of serving the two holy places, the Kingdom has taken the initiative of charging its delegate to the United Nations to inform the concerned parties that the Kingdom will do anything of a nature to facilitate the arrival of the Libyan pilgrims in its territory.

Consequently, it suggested to its embassy in Tripoli to inform the responsible quarters in the Libyan Government of what has been undertaken, and to quickly let the concerned Saudi authorities know the number of airplanes that would carry the Libyan pilgrims, and their dates of arrival. At the same time, instructions were given to the Saudi Airlines to offer all facilities to receive the Libyan airplanes and to offer the necessary ground services to them. The source went on to say: While the government of the Kingdom was waiting for a reply from the Libyan authorities regarding the number of the Libyan airplanes and dates of arrival, it received an urgent cable from the Saudi charge d'affaires in Libya. The cable effectively said that contact had been made immediately with Mr. 'Ali al-Sha'iri, secretary of the Libyan leadership, who told the Saudi charge d'affaires last Friday evening, 6 June, that the subject was referred by His Excellency Col. Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to Ambassador Ahmad Bin-Khayyal, secretary-general of the Libyan Foreign Liaison Bureau, who conveyed the following to the Saudi charge d'affaires:

"The Libyan Jamahiriyah addresses its great thanks to the servant of the two holy mosques for this gracious initiative, and the Libyan people highly appreciate this position from an Arab Muslim leader who looks out for the interests of Muslims, and it will never forget this honorable position." Ambassador Bin-Khayyal went on to say to the Saudi charge d'affaires: "However, Libya has not asked for, and will not ask for permission to transport its pilgrims this year."

The source said: "This is what happened as far as the positive stand taken by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia was concerned—a stand which stems from sincere intentions toward the Libyan pilgrims." This is what the Libyan president [title as received] had done: He prevented his nationals from going to the pilgrimage this year, despite the fact that Saudi Arabia has to date received over 3,000 Libyan pilgrims. They from Arab, Islamic, and other countries and have found here all care and attention, as they have expressed in public statements.

The source concluded by saying that, in revealing these facts and realities we wanted to silence anyone who might want to cause harm and provocation.

However, if, by preventing Libyan pilgrims the Libyan regime is seeking material for provocation and the distraction of its own people, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, despite its reluctance to get involved in such mazes, will not accept affronts or the casting of doubts on its honorable Islamic stands from any one.

King Receives Message From Hashemi-Rafsanjani

LD0706134692 Riyadh SPA in English 1220 GMT 7 Jun 92

[Text] Jeddah, June 7, SPA—Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz received a message from Iranian President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

The message was delivered by Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammad 'Ali Besharati during a meeting with the Saudi monarch in Jeddah on Saturday.

The meeting was attended by Crown Prince 'Abdallah Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the deputy premier and commander of the National Guard, Prince Sultan Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz the second deputy premier and minister of defence and aviation and Iranian Ambassador to the Kingdom Mohammad 'Ali Hadi.

King, Iran's Besharati Praise Ties

LD0806092792 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 1430 GMT 7 Jun 92

[Text] Mr. Besharati, our country's deputy foreign minister, met King Fahd of Saudi Arabia last night and after submitting a message from President Hashemi-Rafsanjani, he expressed gratitude for the Saudi Government's help in solving the problems of Iranian pilgrims, in creating facilities, and in increasing the quota.

King Fahd expressed gratitude for the kind message of Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani and, referring to the recent fatwa of His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i [calling for an orderly hajj] as a contribution to greater Muslim fraternity, he added: The fatwa will have very positive effects not only in Saudi Arabia but throughout the world of Islam. King Fahd also expressed satisfaction with the improvement in ties between the two countries.

Moroccan, Pakistani, Egyptian Officials Arrive

LD0606151892 Riyadh SPA in English 1224 GMT 6 Jun 92

[Text] Jeddah, June 6, SPA—The official Moroccan pilgrimage mission led by 'Abdallah Azmani, the minister of trade and industry, arrived here last night. The mission was welcomed at King 'Abd-al-'Aziz International Airport by 'Abd-al-Wahhab 'Abd-al-Wasi, the minister of pilgrimage and endowments, and a number of officials. Azmani highlighted the existing fraternal relations between the Kingdom and Morocco and described them as deep-rooted. Azmani praised the excellent services being extended by the Kingdom to the pilgrims. The expansion projects in the holy places have provided a good evidence for the attention being given by the Kingdom to the guests of God, he said and added "these expansion projects will enable the pilgrims perform their rituals in comfort and ease".

On the other hand the Pakistani pilgrimage mission, headed by Mohammad Abdul Mannan, the minister of religious affairs [name and title as received], arrived here last night. The pilgrimage mission was welcomed by 'Abd-al-Wahhab 'Abd-al-Wasi, the minister of pilgrimage and religious affairs, and a number of officials. Abdul Mannan lauded the great efforts exerted by the Kingdom in the service of pilgrims.

The Egyptian pilgrimage mission also arrived here last night. The mission headed by Minister of Justice Faruq Sayf al-Nasar was welcomed at King 'Abd-al-'Aziz International Airport by 'Abd-al-Wahhab 'Abd-al-Wasi and a number of officials. The Egyptian pilgrimage mission includes Minister of State at the Cabinet Ahmad Radwan and Rector Ayn-Shams University Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam 'Abd-al-Ghaffar. Sayf al-Nasar highlighted the great efforts being exerted by the Kingdom in the service of pilgrims and the decision of custodian of the two holy mosques King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz to repair the three mosques in Jerusalem at the Kingdom's expense.

King Donates 30 Million Riyals to Bosnian Muslims

LD0706134192 Riyadh SPA in English 1232 GMT 7 May 92

[Text] Riyadh, June 7, SPA—Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz has donated SR [Saudi rials] 30 million from his private account for the Muslims of Bosnia-Hercegovina, according to Prince Salman Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz governor of Riyadh.

Prince Salman and businessman Muhammad Bin-Salih donated SR one million each for the same cause.

Prince Salman was chairman of the committee for helping Bosnia-Hercegovina, which was set up per the directive of King Fahd.

The committee has drawn a plan for collecting donations and formation of an executive committee to hand over the donations to those who deserve them.

The committee has already sent SR 35 million to the Muslims in Bosnia-Hercegovina.

Committee To Collect Donations Formed

LD0806210992 Riyadh SPA in English 1920 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Buraida, June 8, SPA—In implementation of the directives of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz to the interior minister to form committees to collect donations for Bosnian Muslims, al-Qasim Governor Prince Faysal Bin-Bandar-Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz has ordered the formation of a local committee for that purpose in the province.

Prince Faysal, who will chair the committee, urged all citizens to donate what they can for Muslims brothers in Bosnia-Hercegovina.

Al-Qasim Province received a cable from the governor of Riyadh Province, Prince Salman Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, who is also president of the authority on collecting donations for Bosnian Muslims, asking Prince Faysal to form a local committee and ad-hoc committees in distant towns for this noble purpose.

Presidential Council Approves Elections Law

JN0806140792 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Excerpt] The Presidential Council held a meeting today led by Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Presidential Council. Several national, regional, and international developments and issues were discussed during the meeting, as well as issues that concern the Yemeni [words indistinct].

At today's meeting, the Presidential Council approved the general elections law, which the Council of Representatives already has approved. This represents an important step toward firmly establishing the democratic march. [passage omitted]

Israeli Attacks on Lebanon Part of U.S. 'Policy'

JN0806203292 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1905 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Jun (INA)—A Foreign Ministry spokesman has stated the following:

The new Zionist aggression against southern Lebanon and the Palestinian camps and the siege imposed on the Gaza Strip are part of the aggressive Zionist schemes against the Arab nation in light of the growing imperialist-Zionist onslaught against the Lebanese and Palestinian people and their valiant intifadah in the occupied territories, the savage suppression by the Zionist occupation authorities, the miserable siege and starvation attempts that seek to strike at the intifadah and abort it, the continuation of the Zionist settlement activity in the Palestinian and Arab occupied territories, and the plundering and Judaization of holy places and attacks against them. This threatens a mass expulsion of the Palestinian people and opens the road to a new aggressive Zionist expansion.

In a statement to INA on the Zionist aggression against southern Lebanon, the spokesman added that the continuing aggression against southern Lebanon and the occupation of part of its territories confirm the reality of the Zionist enemy and the reality of the policy and objectives of the United States and its allies; namely, supporting the Zionist entity, extending loans and financial aid to it, and supplying it with the most modern military equipment, as well as the adoption of double standards when dealing with UN resolutions.

He added that the United States is a long way away from being serious about the efforts it claims to be making to find a just solution to the Palestine question. The United States is covering up and encouraging Zionist aggression; it is still preventing the Security Council from implementing its resolutions on the Palestine question, conniving at Zionist crimes, and selling the Arabs empty, vain talk. The Foreign Ministry spokesman stressed that attempts are being made to strike at the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, to marginalize its role, and to cut aid to it in order to prevent it from carrying out its national duty and achieving the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to repatriation to their homeland, self-determination, and the establishment of their independent state on their national soil with holy Jerusalem as its capital. These attempts are being made by some Arab parties, which have paved the way for and which have participated in aggression against Iraq. These parties are now hiding behind hollow words about the massacres being committed by the Zionist entity against the sons of Lebanon and Palestine, although parts of the territories of some of these parties are still occupied by the Zionist entity.

Concluding his statement to INA, the spokesman stressed that what is really needed to deter the Zionist entity from continuing its aggressive practices against the peoples of Palestine, Lebanon, and the occupied Arab territories is to adhere to the genuine Arab constants and not to follow the policies of the United States and its allies. These policies seek to subjugate the Arab region and to liquidate the Palestine question in order to secure the Zionist entity's strategic interests, to entrench the Zionist occupation of Palestine and the Arab territories, and to prepare for further expansion at the expense of the Arab nation.

Minister Denies Effort To Open Syrian Pipeline

JN0806134292 Baghdad INA in English 1320 GMT 8 June 92

[Text] Baghdad, June, INA—Iraq has denied allegations on making contacts with Syria to re-operate the Iraqi oil pipeline across Syria.

Iraq's Oil Minister Mr Usamah 'Abd-al-Razzaq al-Hiti was quoted by a monthly oil bulletin "OIL AND THE WORLD" as saying contacts reported to re-operate the Iraqi pipeline via Syria amount to rumours.

Al-Hiti said the Syrians are using the pipeline in their territory to pump oil from Syrian oilfields on the Iraqi-Syrian border.

Syria cut the oil pipeline at the beginning of 1980's as a gesture of support to Iran, which launched an eight-year war against Iraq on September 4, 1980.

The oil minister also refuted reports by Western press that the outlawed Kurdish parties had started exporting oil from Iraq's northern oil fields.

He said, "The terrorists in the north do not have the potentials and the technology to produce and export oil".

Saddam's Adviser Appointed to New Ministries

JN0806103492 Baghdad BABIL in Arabic 4 Jun 92 p 1

[Text] BABIL has learned that the Revolution Command Council has decided to charge Staff Lieutenant General Husayn Kamil Hasan, adviser to the president of the republic, on behalf of the presidency, the task of supervising, leading, and directing the Ministry of Industry and Minerals and the Ministry of Oil. He will enjoy all the authority he had enjoyed when he was supervisor of the Ministry of Industry and Military Industrialization and the Ministry of Oil.

'Udayy to Chair Freedom of Press League

JN0506163392 Baghdad AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 4 Jun 92 p 8

[Text] Baghdad/AL-JUMHURIYAH—The Interior Ministry has issued a license to the League for the Defense of the Freedoms of Writers and Journalists in the Arab Homeland. The league's preparatory committee held its constituent meeting in Baghdad last April.

The league is chaired by 'Udayy Saddam Husayn, chairman of the Iraqi Journalists Union.

It is worth noting that the Baghdad-based league for the defense of press freedoms was formed late last year. The Interior Ministry also approved the establishment of a branch for the league in Iraq, whose secretary is Diya' al-Rawi.

'Aziz To Address Rio Environmental Conference

JN0606084892 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0805 GMT 6 Jun 92

[Text] Baghdad, 6 Jun (INA)—Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz left Baghdad for Rio de Janeiro this morning to lead the Iraqi delegation to the UN Conference on Environment and Development [UNCED], which is currently held there.

The Iraqi delegation includes a number of environmentalists and Foreign Ministry officials.

Tariq 'Aziz will deliver a speech on behalf of the Iraqi delegation Tuesday evening [9 June]. In his speech, 'Aziz will review Iraq's stand on a number of issues raised at the conference, especially the traces of the brutal 30-state aggression on the environment and health in Iraq.

Visits 'Arafat En Route to Rio

JN0606161792 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1551 GMT 6 Jun 92

[Text] Amman, 6 Jun (INA)—Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz has conveyed His Excellency President Saddam Husayn's greetings to Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat.

Calling on Mr. 'Arafat at his residence here, he also passed along wishes of a speedy recovery from the president, government, and people of Iraq.

Mr. 'Arafat asked Mr. 'Aziz to convey his thanks and appreciation for the good wishes of his excellency the president. He wished Iraq advancement and prosperity as it pursues rehabilitation and reconstruction.

Present at the meeting, during which Arab, Palestinian, and world developments were discussed, were Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department; Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh, PLO Executive Committee member; and the ambassadors of Iraq and Palestine in Amman.

'Aziz arrived in the Jordanian capital earlier in the day en route to Rio de Janeiro, where he will lead Iraq's delegation to the UN Conference on Environment and Development.

U.S. 'Spy Plane' Violations Outlined to UN

JN0806151192 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1315 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Jun (INA)—Iraq has informed the United Nations of the continued violation of its airspace by the U.S. U-2 spy plane under the pretext of conducting aerial surveys for the UN Special Commission.

In a letter sent to UN Secretary General Dr. Butrus-Ghali today, Foreign Minister Ahmad Husayn said that the plane had violated Iraqi airspace on 26 May, coming in from Saudi airspace. He noted that the plane flew over areas in central, northern, and southern Iraq for three hours and 40 minutes before heading back toward Saudi Arabia.

The foreign minister noted, moreover, that the U.S. U-2 plane violated Iraqi airspace once again on 30 May, overflying large parts of northern and central Iraq for four and a half hours. It then left Iraqi airspace toward Saudi Arabia.

On 6 June, he added, the plane committed a new violation of Iraqi airspace, focusing its activity over Baghdad and the central region of Iraq. The plane flew for more than two hours before leaving toward Saudi Arabia.

In his letter, the foreign minister condemned the continued violations of Iraqi airspace by the U.S. U-2 spy plane, which have now reached a total of 55. He also reasserted Iraq's belief that this plane is being used for purposes other than the ones specified by the Security Council and that its activity prejudices Iraq's sovereignty and security.

American Red Cross, War Victims Delegation Visit

Party Leaders Receives U.S. Delegation

JN0606134492 Baghdad INA in English 1300 GMT 6 Jun 92

[Text] Baghdad, June 6, INA—Member of the regional leadership of the Arab Ba'th Socialist Party Mr 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd-al-Ghafur today met delegation for war victims body in the United States of America led by Mr. Paul Vincent.

Mr. 'Abd-al-Ghafur said the real humane sentiments and solidarity from world peoples with Iraq, truly embodied victory of humanitarian and peace advocates over those who call for war and ruin.

He requested the body of war victims in the USA to raise its voice inside America so that to expose American rancour towards Iraq, and work within its capability, to break the economic blockade imposed on the people of Iraq [as received].

Mr. Paul Vincent expressed appreciation of achievements in reconstructing what had been destroyed in the aggression. He confirmed that the delegation would convey that magnificent picture on Iraq's people hard-work, and what they had seen of suffering of children and the elderly and women of Iraq due to the boycott imposed on their country.

Vice President Meets U.S. Delegation

JN0606144592 Baghdad INA in English 1415 GMT 6 Jun 92

[Text] Baghdad, June 6, INA—Mr Taha Yasin Ramadan vice-president has confirmed that the sincere efforts for justice and right will triumph over all means of suppression and aggression.

In a meeting with Mr Paul Vincent member of board of director of the American Red Cross and chairman of war victims commission, Mr Ramadan said goals of the American, NATO, Zionist aggression on Iraq became clear to all world referring that the Iraqi people represents added evidence on the continuity of war against Iraq.

On his part, Mr Vincent reviewed works made by the commission for patronizing Iraq and lifting the blockade and its efforts to offer food and medicine to its people.

Assembly Speaker Meets Delegation, Others

JN0706193092 Baghdad INA in English 1700 GMT 7 Jun 92

[Text] Baghdad, June 7, INA—Speaker of Iraqi National Assembly Mr Sa'di Mahdi Salih today received Mr Hikmat Abu-Rashid, member of the Revolutionary Council of Eritrean Liberation Front and secretary-general of the General Federation of Eritrean Workers.

The speaker reviewed during the meeting stages of American Zionist continued conspiracies on Iraq for preventing it from reconstructing its infrastructures and basic economic foundations.

The Eritrean visiting official expressed appreciation and admiration of the reconstruction campaigns in Iraq and the people of Iraq's steadfastness in confronting the economic blockade.

Mr. Sa'di Mahdi Salih has also met today member of the German Parliament Dr Finscher [name as received] currently on a visit to Iraq. The speaker of the National Assembly reviewed to her the consequences resulted from the U.S.-led aggression on Iraq and the economic sanctions imposed on the people of Iraq and the sufferings it is causing for them.

Furthermore the speaker of the Iraqi National Assembly today met delegation of the War Victims Commission in the United States of America headed by Mr. Paul Vincent.

The speaker confirmed during the meeting that the aim behind the war waged by the United States and its allies against Iraq was to destroy the basic pillars and the infrastructure of the Iraqi economy.

He has expressed pleasure over the visit of the delegation to Iraq and the humane sentiments shown towards the people of Iraq that sacrificed with all that it has to manifest the right and establish peace and justice and security in the Arab homeland and the world as a whole.

Trade Minister Briefs on 'Unjust' Blockade

JN0806192792 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1600 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Trade Minister Dr. Muhammad Mahdi Salih has affirmed that the state is responsible for providing food for everyone residing in Iraq as part of its national responsibility toward the people. He noted that everyone has an equal share in terms of quantity and quality in accordance with the ration card system.

Speaking during his meeting today with a delegation from the U.S. War Victims Committee, headed by Paul Vincent, the trade minister said that the resolution to impose the unjust blockade, which is imposed by the U.S. Administration and its allies on the people of Iraq, reveals premeditated intentions against the Iraqis and a persistence in using this weapon to achieve malicious political objectives.

The head of the delegation showed understanding of the suffering of the people of Iraq under the current circumstances and expressed willingness to work, along with kindly people, to put an end to the harm resulting from the unjust blockade.

U.S. 'Peace Advocate' Condemns Economic Blockade

JN0606181692 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1700 GMT 6 Jun 92

[Text] Baghdad, 6 Jun (INA)—Latif Nusayyif Jasim, chairman of the friendship, peace, and solidarity organization, has asserted that what Iraq wants is the noble, humanitarian stand of good and honorable people throughout the world toward its genuine people, whose very existence is being exposed to a major conspiracy.

During his meeting with American peace advocate William Brown today, he said that every noble American coming to Iraq will see the ugly crimes committed by U.S. President Bush against the Iraqi people during his vile 30-state aggression.

He also expressed Iraq's pride in the noble, humanitarian positions of the international organizations, movements, and figures. The campaign of deception could not change their positions or conceal facts from them. He also stressed that the dimensions and goals of that flagrant aggression have become clear to everyone.

William Brown condemned the continued economic blockade imposed on Iraq's people, and called for a quick, effective lifting of the blockade, which no longer has any legal justification.

Paper Views Reported Increase in CIA Budget

JN0606105992 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0611 GMT 6 Jun 92

[Text] Baghdad, 6 Jun (INA)—The newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH has said that increasing the U.S. CIA's budget allocated for efforts to topple the Iraqi regime will only lead to results similar to those of its previous attempts.

In a commentary today, the newspaper says that the process of buying traitors—the so-called opposition—seems to have yielded negative results for the U.S. Administration. Thus, it began to lavish more financial and media aid on them, having attained pledges from two of their groups to cooperate and coordinate with the agency with the aim of toppling the national regime in Iraq.

The paper ridicules the U.S. Administration's expectations. It says that Washington has failed to learn from the lessons of the recent past, whose events affirm that, despite the great support of Washington, London, Paris, Tel Aviv, Riyadh, Kuwait, Damascus, and Cairo, those traitors, who converge under the banner of the opposition, could do nothing more than issue statements and organize meetings in anti-Iraq capitals.

Dealing with the implications of the White House' decision to increase the CIA's allocations for activity aimed at toppling the regime in Iraq, AL-JUMHURIYAH says that, in part, this means that the clique of traitors has failed to implement the U.S.-Zionist scheme that it has been tasked with.

The newspaper continues: This increase will only succeed in beefing up the foreign bank accounts of the heads of those gangs, intensify their coordination visits to hostile capitals, and amplify the pitch of lies against Iraq.

As for the major mission that the Bush administration hopes to accomplish, (?all) the money in U.S. banks will fail because the Iraqi people's determination and their support for their leader Saddam Husayn constitute the shield that will ward off all enemy arrows.

Support for Yemen Against 'Saudi Plots' Voiced

JN0806164692 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1400 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Comrade 'Abd-al-Ghani 'Abd-al-Ghafur, member of the Iraq Command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the official in charge of the Command's Foreign Relations Bureau, proudly values the genuine pan-Arab stands adopted by fraternal Yemen—president, leadership, people, and political forces and parties—toward Iraq during its confrontation with the U.S.-Zionist-Atlantic aggression and the continued unjust economic blockade being imposed on the people of Iraq.

Speaking during his meeting today with 'Abd-al-Sattar al-Shammari, member of the Standing Committee of the Yemeni General People's Congress and director of the National Charter Institute, comrade 'Abd-al-Ghafur said that the genuine pan-Arab stands demonstrated during the great confrontation of the Mother of Battles, under the leadership of President Saddam Husayn, have terrified the enemies of Iraq and Arabism. The comrade member of the Iraq Command reasserted support for, and solidarity with, fraternal Yemen in its confrontation against Saudi plots in an effort to safeguard its national unity, stability, and sovereignty.

'Abd-al-Sattar al-Shammari, member of the Standing Committee of the Yemeni General People's Congress, affirmed the pride of the Yemeni masses in the struggler leader Saddam Husayn and in his wise leadership. This leadership has achieved victory for Arabism over its enemies and produced a pan-Arab awakening through its confrontation with the enemies and the epic of reconstruction.

During the meeting, which was attended by Sa'd Qasim Hammudi, secretary general of the Arab Popular Forces Conference, the two officials discussed ways to deepen relations between the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the Yemeni General People's Congress through the exchange of visits and pan-Arab culture and awareness.

Paper Critical of GCC Statement, Border Disputes

JN0806090992 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0627 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Jun (INA)—AL-THAWRAH has stressed that the statement issued by the ministerial meeting of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] is no more than a carbon copy of what Washington and world Zionism require to maintain Arab fragmentation and infighting.

In an article published today, the paper says: Those who allowed imperialism to tamper with our nation's destiny and control its wealth, and who blessed the strike at the nation's sons and attempt to confiscate their future, are no more than small agents. Consequently, we were not surprised by their discordant tune.

The paper, mouthpiece of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, adds: The likes of the rulers imposed on Kuwait and the Saudi rulers, who forfeited sovereignty, dignity, and independence, and relied on the the foreigner to derive strength against their nation, its history and march, can never understand the meaning of sovereignty because they have lost the honor of dignity and were the first to fall into the quagmire of treason.

The paper explains that those persons, more than others, with their midget shaykhdoms, suffer from border disputes created by the British colonialist factory. There are border disputes between Saudi Arabia and Yemen, between Oman and Yemen, and between the United Arab Emirates and Oman. There are some who say that all of [word indistinct] the Emirates originally belongs to

Oman. There are also pending border issues between Qatar and Bahrain, and others.

Concluding its article, AL-THAWRAH says: Harping on this tune is basically harmful, and does not serve security and stability in the region. The demarcation of borders, and the flagrant foreign intervention in the work of demarcation committees do not help resolve the problem as much as they help maintain the causes for tension and for future explosion.

Citizens Return From Saudi Arabia, Hail Saddam

JN0606150292 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1258 GMT 6 Jun 92

[Excerpt] Governorates, 6 Jun (INA)—A number of Iraqi citizens held in Saudi territory have returned to the homeland via al-Jumaymah border police station. They highly praised President Saddam Husayn's noble gesture granting them general amnesty and allowing them and their families to return to their homeland.

In statements to INA, the returnees expressed their pride in President Saddam Husayn as well as their great appreciation of his noble offer to allow them to return to their homeland to contribute to building and defending its sacred soil.

Returnee Hashim Razzaq Manahi from Dhi Qar Governorate said that the practices to which he was subjected during his detention in Saudi Arabia have prompted him to return to his homeland to contribute to its construction. [passage omitted]

Pro-Iraqi Egyptian Diplomat's Passport Withdrawn

JN0606074692 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0620 GMT 6 Jun 92

[Text] Baghdad, 6 Jun (INA)—The Egyptian Government has withdrawn the passport of one of its diplomats in Amman because of his support for Iraq.

Mr. Muhammad Muhammad 'Abd-al-'Alim said that several members of the Egyptian diplomatic mission in Jordan, acting on instructions from Cairo, practiced all forms of psychological pressure against him and threatened to punish him if he continued to denounce Husni Mubarak regime's support for the aggression against Iraq.

Mr. 'Abd-al-'Alim told AL-JUMHURIYAH that the Jordanian Interior Ministry, in a remarkable pan-Arab decision, gave him permission to reside and work in the country although he possessed no passport.

He said he had obtained a temporary passport to travel to Iraq to obtain Iraqi citizenship.

Reportage on Kurdistan; Interviews by Leaders

Turkish Paper Interviews Barzani

NC0606202392 Istanbul 2000 IKIBIN'E DOGRU in Turkish 31 May 92 p 13

[Interview with Mas'ud Barzani, leader of the Democratic Party of Kurdistan, by Ferit Ilsever, the editor of 2000 IKIBIN'E DOGRU; M. Bedri Gultekin, deputy leader of the Turkish Socialist Party; and Guri Benzer, a member of the Socialist Party Central Committee from the Silopi district, in Salah al-Din on 23 May]

[Text] [2000 IKIBIN'E DOGRU] What is the importance of the elections in Kurdish history and the Kurdish national struggle?

[Barzani] These elections were positive and a major step for us. Due to the fact that this was our first election, we had some technical and other problems. We felt our inexperience. We will overcome these shortcomings in future elections. Our major goal was to obtain positive results in order to solve our internal problems. Our goal is not to set up an independent state. It is a great honor for us to have taken a major step towards democracy in Iraq. We took a major step and laid a good foundation for democracy. There were some shortcomings, but we will gradually overcome them.

We want and expect all our friends to help us establish democracy here.

[2000 IKIBIN'E DOGRU] Will the election results help solve the internal problems?

[Barzani] We are hopeful.

[2000 IKIBIN'E DOGRU] You just said that the elections were "a step towards democracy in Iraq."

[Barzani] Yes. They will influence the development of democracy in other parts of Iraq.

[2000 IKIBIN'E DOGRU] Has the possibility of an agreement with the Iraqi Government increased or diminished?

[Barzani] I am not in a position to say anything about this issue. The elected parliament will adopt a decision on this matter.

[2000 IKIBIN'E DOGRU] The Hammer Force's mandate in Turkey expires in June. The Turkish parliament will have to make a decision. What is your view on this issue?

[Barzani] We are facing a major problem. Our people are caught in a cross-fire. Our problems include finding a solution to the Kurdish problem, settling our people in their homes, and preventing exodus elsewhere. We have to make use of whatever means available to defend ourselves. In addition, we have no control whatsoever on these developments.

[2000 IKIBIN'E DOGRU] The Turkish Government is forcing you and the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan to take an stance against the PKK [Kurdish Workers Party]. What will be the course of developments after the elections?

[Barzani] As you know, our border villages were evacuated by the Iraqi Government. It is very important for us to resettle our villages. We will not tolerate anyone preventing our people from resettling in their villages. We want the conflicting sides to solve their problems on their land, not ours. Let them be helpful and not create problems. We will not reconcile ourselves with any development which might create problems for us.

PUK Leader Talabani Interviewed

NC0606174092 Istanbul 2000 IKIBIN'E DOGRU in Turkish 31 May 92 pp 10-12

[Interview with Jalal Talabani, leader of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, PUK, by Ferit Ilsever, editor of 2000 IKIBIN'E DOGRU; M. Bedri Gultekin, deputy leader of the Turkish Socialist Party; and Guri Benzer, a member of the Socialist Party Central Committee from the Silopi district, in Shaqlawah on 25 May]

[Text] [2000 IKIBIN'E DOGRU] We want to know your views on the post-election period.

[Talabani] The election was very important for the people of Iraqi Kurdistan. It was important not only for the Kurds but also for the entire people of Kurdistan. Turkomans, Assyrians, and Arabs live alongside the Kurds here. We are not a nationalistic movement; we are a patriotic one. We want the people of Iraqi Kurdistan to control their own destiny. We do not want to break away from Iraq; we want a democratic Iraq. We want the people of Iraqi Kurdistan to enjoy the right of self-determination within a democratic Iraq. We want to be able to decide how to coexist with Baghdad, how relations should be with Baghdad, and how the union with the central government should be.

We want to become a modern community on the basis of equality. We want equality for all our citizens, be they Turkomans, Assyrians, or Kurds. We want each people to use their own language and have their own administration; its own cultural, national, and democratic rights. For example, we created the opportunity for the Assyrians to administer their own region, use their own language, develop their culture, and participate in the central government. We are also working to secure equality for the Turkomans and to ensure their return to such settlements as Karkuk, Kifri and Altinkopru, from where they were driven by the dictatorship. Once the Turkomans return to their homes, they will be able to administer their own language and democratic rights. They will be able to set up their own organizations and parties and will participate in both regional and central administration and in the parliament. This will ensure real equality for the citizens of Iraqi Kurdistan. Agrarian reform and equality of the sexes are part of our program. We will reconstruct Iraqi Kurdistan. The rural sector is predominant but has been totally destroyed. We have to revive our agriculture. In a way, we have to reconstruct our country from the ground up. We have to open the idle factories, provide jobs, resurrect the service sector, and pay wages.

We will develop good relations with Syria, Turkey, and Iran. It is our fundamental aim to live together in peace and to develop good-neighborly relations.

[2000 IKIBIN'E DOGRU] Something similar to a state is evolving now. What is the actual situation? Will it be an independent state or an autonomous structure? Will there be an army?

[Talabani] We want to reorganize a part of the peshmerga forces, considering that there are hundreds of thousands of them, into a modern army. The rest will return to normal life. Most of them have already found employment. Still another group will be organized into a police force.

What will be the relation between this army and Baghdad? If a democratic system and a national army emerges in Iraq, our army will become a part of that national army. For now, however, there is no Iraqi army; there is the Ba'th Party's army. What if the Turkish Army were the army of the Motherland Party or the True Path Party. That is the situation in Iraq. As long as the Ba'th Party maintains an army, we will too.

[2000 IKIBIN'E DOGRU] Are you linking the resumption of talks with Baghdad to the "establishment of democracy in Iraq?"

[Talabani] The Baghdad administration has shut all the doors. First, it was against me, now it is against Barzani. According to a 1988 UN resolution, democracy and human rights must be respected before anything else. The Kurds national rights are linked to that. First comes democratization and then the Kurdish national demands. There is an organic link between democracy in Baghdad and Kurdish rights in Kurdistan.

[2000 IKIBIN'E DOGRU] Did the possibility of an agreement with Baghdad decrease after the elections?

[Talabani] The doors are shut.

[2000 IKIBIN'E DOGRU] The PUK leaders with whom we have met told us that the elections "will bring democracy to the rest of Iraq." Do you share this view?

[Talabani] We are thinking along those lines. Our democracy will augment and inspire Iraqi democracy and will contribute to the democratization process.

[2000 IKIBIN'E DOGRU] Do you mean that in the "absence of democracy in Baghdad" your independence comes up on the agenda?

[Talabani] No. Our democracy will be the foundation for Iraqi democracy.

[2000 IKIBIN'E DOGRU] Five parliamentary seats were set aside for the Assyrians. Why did you not create similar slots for the Turkomans?

[Talabani] There are Turkomans among Yekiti's [not further identified] candidates. Unfortunately, the areas—such as Tilafer, Mosul, Altinkopru, Karkuk, Hanikin, Mandali, Karatepe and Tuzhurmatu—inhabited by Turkomans are under Baghdad's control. There are also a small number of Turkomans in Irbil.

[2000 IKIBIN'E DOGRU] How many Turkoman seats will this parliament have?

[Talabani] We have two on our list, I do not know if there are others.

[2000 IKIBIN'E DOGRU] What would you say to the American military presence in the region? The elections were held under the umbrella of the Hammer Force. This force's term expires in June. The Turkish parliament will debate whether or not to renew its mandate. What is your view on this issue?

[Talabani] We should ask why the American forces are here in the first place. The Iraqi Administration is to blame. During the Iraq-Iran war, all Western countries supported Iraq. When Iraq attacked Kuwait, however, the U.S. troops came here.

The Ba'th Party was brought to power in 1968 by the West, with Britain playing a major role. After coming to power, Ba'th crushed all opposition.

During World War II, U.S. troops liberated many European countries from Hitler's oppression. A similar situation now exists. We experienced enormous oppression, our people were killed and forced to become refugees. The coalition forces came in to protect human rights. You cannot reject those who come to your aid. If Iraq becomes democratic, we will tell the Western powers to go.

When the Italian troops came here the people applauded them because they did not come as an occupation force.

If you fall into the sea and a helicopter comes to rescue you, you do not ask from which country it comes.

Remember, Mao Zedong forged an alliance with the anti-fascist front against Japan.

Do not forget that we are a nation victimized by the imperialists' intrigues. We have been victims of imperialist plots since World War I.

You cannot give the knife to the butcher, put out your neck, and tell the coalition forces to leave.

Tito accepted aid from the British. Even Castro had relations with the United States. If peace and democracy come to the Middle East, we will tell the United States to go.

I was a student in Baghdad 30 years ago, and we used to organize demonstrations against the British. When I met John Major, I told him: "During those Baghdad demonstrations, I called for the withdrawal of the British, but now I am saying let them stay. This is because the conditions have changed, the British presence is different now."

The reason for the presence of the coalition forces is important. If they had come for occupation, we would have fought them. That, however, was not the case.

Let us not forget that the Ba'th Party is not an Ortega but a Noriega [sentence as published].

If someone attempted to carry out a massacre in Istanbul, you would go to the security forces. A similar situation exists here.

The U.S. presence in Turkey is nothing new, it has been there since Turkey's membership in NATO.

[2000 IKIBIN'E DOGRU] The Turkish Government wanted the Kurdish Front to take a stance against the PKK [Kurdish Workers Party]. What will be the stance of the post-election parliament towards such demands?

[Talabani] If a government is formed in Iraqi Kurdistan it will enact laws on all issues and will control its borders. If that happens, the parties in Iranian and Turkish Kurdistan will have to do two things: If they want to engage in political struggle, they can stay in Iraqi Kurdistan. They are welcome to do that. If they are going to engage in armed struggle, however, let them go to their own regions. Why? Because an armed struggle is not a commodity to be exported. An armed struggle is waged where liberation is sought. The struggles in Cuba, Vietnam, China, and Algeria were all waged in the bosom of these peoples. We, as the Iraqi Kurds, were always in Iraq and struggled in the bosom of our people. This should be known to our Kurdish brothers in Turkey and Iran.

The second reason: This is not the age of Che Guevera, Mao Zedong, or Ho Chi Minh. Times have changed. Today the armed struggle has yielded to political struggle. The armed struggle was replaced by the political struggle in Cambodia, Afghanistan, Western Sahara, and Palestine.

We have drawn yet another lesson from our experience: The democratic struggle waged through political, organizational, trade-union venues are more beneficial. Armed struggle might be necessary, but when the time for the political struggle arrives, it should not be neglected. Let us look at Palestine: The Intifadah and mass political struggle are educational from the point of view of their effectiveness.

As to the relations with the regional states and Kurdish organizations: We had relations with various regional states, but the contacts were never to the detriment of Kurds living in those states. For example, we once had

excellent relations with Syria. At the same time, our relations with Kurds in Syria was good too.

[2000 IKIBIN'E DOGRU] Drawing on your experiences, do you have any advice for Turkey?

[Talabani] First of all, I do not find it appropriate to advise the Turkish Government. Everyone has his own view on how to solve their own problems.

However, we could say the following in a friendly manner: Let the democratization process proceed. Let human rights and democracy be equally implemented in Istanbul as well as in Diyarbakir. Let a general amnesty be declared for all the Kurds at home and abroad and in prisons. Let the roads of political struggle be opened for everybody.

I want to tell our Turkish friends the following: Sixty years ago you said there were 4 million Kurds in Turkey. Later you denied that, describing them as Mountain Turks. What did you achieve by that? Now you say there are 12 million Kurds there. That means that despite all your efforts the Kurdish population increased.

During the final stages of the Ottoman Empire, Arabs and Balkan peoples revolted. Only the Kurds remained on the side of the Turks. The Turks and Kurds fought side by side during the national liberation war. What happened? The Arabs joined the British in a war against you during World War I. Later Husayn, the grandson of Faysal who fought against you, visited Ankara. You rolled out the red carpet and your troops saluted him. What happened to the Kurds? You threw the grandsons of those who fought with you into prisons.

Commander—PKK's Ocalan in Kurdistan

NC0606204792 Istanbul 2000 IKIBIN'E DOGRU in Turkish 31 May 92 p 14

[Interview with Cemil Bayik, commander of the People's Liberation Army of Kurdistan by Ahmet Sumbul in a Kurdish Workers Party, PKK, camp in northern Iraq on 23-24 May]

[Text] [Sumbul] What was the aim behind the elections in northern Iraq? Are they supposed to provide a solution to Iraqi Kurdistan? What will happen in six months?

[Bayik] The elections are not a solution. The United States has developed a Middle East policy. It wants to consolidate the so-called "new world order" when, in fact, no such order exists; it is merely the old order in new wrapping. The United States wants to use southern Kurdistan [northern Iraq] to consolidate this "new world order." In order to do that, it must bamboozle international public opinion, and the election were part of this plan. The aim is to use southern Kurdistan as a stepping-stone. The elections were organized to eliminate the independence and freedom struggle spreading in Kurdistan in general and to transform Kurdistan into an imperialist base.

[Sumbul] From southern Kurdistan, the United States can reach the Middle East and the Central Asian Turkic republics. It might open a door here over these regions. We also may see a conflict of interest between the imperialists. Can Turkey have a say here when the United States is using the place?

[Bayik] In its assault on the Middle East and the Turkic republics, the United States is using Turkey as a stepping-stone, and Turkey has been given some specific roles to play. Everyone knows about Turkey's relationship with the United States; it is not a relationship between equals, it only serves the United States. Turkey does not stand to gain much from this relationship. It implements whatever the United States tells it to. In fact, Turkey does not consider some of the plans the United States has devised for southern Kurdistan to be in its interests. It still implements them, however, simply because the United States demands it.

The elections in southern Kurdistan were, to a certain extent, linked with such U.S. plans.

[Sumbul] The European representative of ERNK [the PKK-affiliated National Liberation Front of Kurdistan] recently said that the al-Biqa' valley has been evacuated. Have your relations with Syria entered into a new phase following Turkish Interior Minister Ismet Sezgin's visit there? Has [PKK leader] Abdullah Ocalan left Syria?

[Bayik] I spoke about the United States doing things. This problem is linked to that one. Syria occupies a certain position in the region. The United States wants to change the Syrian position because it is a problem for it. This is where the pressure on Syria originates. The United States is also giving a certain orientation to Turkey. The aim is to use threat and blackmail to drag Syria in the direction the United States prefers. In fact, al-Biqa' is not the problem. It is difficult for Syria to withstand so much pressure, after all Syria has its own problems. One must understand Syria's position.

Despite that, Syria has not taken an anti-PKK stance, as Turkey claims. Turkey is disseminating false reports and announcements. It is waging psychological war. The decision to evacuate al-Biqa' was made a year ago. Al-Biqa' served its purpose, it has very little importance now. Taking the latest developments into account, we ourselves decided to evacuate al-Biqa'. Now we have scores of al-Biqa's in our own country. As to whereabouts of Apo [Abdullah Ocalan], he is in Kurdistan.

Kurdish People's Party Congratulates PUK

NC0506170192 (Clandestine) Voice of the Kurdistan Revolution Radio in Arabic 1540 GMT 3 Jun 92

["Text" of cable of congratulations sent by the Central Committee of the Kurdish People's Democratic Party to the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan's secretary general and political bureau on 1 June—read by announcer]

[Text] On your 17th anniversary, we extend our sincerest congratulations and best wishes in the name of our party, the Kurdish People's Democratic Party.

The historic and important era through which our people in Iraqi Kurdistan are passing and which was marked by great achievements, such as the uprising, mass immigration, and the elections for the Kurdish National Assembly, requires cooperation and the closing of ranks. Our people eagerly look forward to having an efficient administration in the liberated areas, one which can tackle the economic, social, and security problems and develop the region so that reconstruction might restart and life might return to normal.

These formidable tasks require consolidating the role played by the Kurdistan Front and the relationship of struggle that links its parties and which demands outstanding efforts by the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan [PUK], which is playing a great role in all the events in Kurdistan.

We believe the bonds of historic brotherhood and common struggle between our party and your union will strengthen, based on our shared view of Kurdistan's present and future.

We salute you and repeat our wishes to you for good health and prosperity.

[Signed] The Central Committee of the Kurdish People's Democratic Party, 1 June 1992

Talabani Addresses PUK Officials, Cadres

NC0706045992 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Kurdistan in Arabic 1700 GMT 6 Jun 92

[Text] At 1100 today, struggler Jalal Talabani, secretary general of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan [PUK], met in Shaqlawah with officials and cadres of the PUK's second headquarters in Karkuk. During the meeting, Talabani discussed the importance of the parliament and its role in entrenching the principles of peace in Kurdistan, the region, and the world. Struggler Talabani also mentioned the importance of organization in this phase of national life. He called on the people to preserve the spirit of strength and asked those present to use the idea of preserving the interests of the Kurdish people as their guiding principle. Concluding the meeting, struggler Talabani answered questions.

3 Parties Issue Statement on Merger

JN0806191692 (Clandestine) Kurdistan Voice of Unification in Arabic 1600 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Statement issued by the joint leadership of the Kurdistan Socialist Party, the Kurdistan Independence Democratic Party, and the Kurdistan People's Democratic Party—date not given]

[Text] O struggling masses of Kurdistan, O honest sons of our people: The good news of the rise of the sun of freedom over liberated Kurdistan reminds us of the blood of our righteous martyrs. It makes us yearn for struggle to achieve the legitimate goals of our persecuted people and to firmly establish their national unity and the unity of the factions of the Kurdistan liberation movement, which is considered a pillar for the lofty building of a bright future.

Therefore, we must recall the terrible incidents and the regrettable actions that have taken place in Kurdistan. These historical events prove to us that the Kurdish people and their revolutionary factions and national forces can achieve the people's aspirations only through a fateful unity for their sons. This honest step shows a leading and effective role and erupts like a volcano.

Now, out of a sense of responsibility, we prove to both friends and enemies that the interests of our people in Kurdistan are above narrow private and party interests. O honorable citizens: We previously proved to you, in a practical manner at the end of 1988, that we took important steps toward a general reconciliation by forming the Kurdistan Front, whose sacrifice is now yielding its fruits. Liberation has been firmly established by unifying these honest political forces in Kurdistan as a result of the people's awareness in the spring of 1991.

Look! The honest and sacrificing sons of Pasok [Independence Party], the Socialist [Party], and the People's [Democratic Party], through honest efforts and strong confidence, and after relying on God and on you, O loyal people, have decided to unify the three parties into a national progressive democratic party. This party will be a sacred example, a new test of our people's liberation movement, a refuter, and a destructive blow to the enemies hiding in Kurdistan. These enemies dealt with the legitimate rights of Kurdistan's people in a very ugly manner and used all their energy and tyrannical forces to evict and annihilate the Kurdish people and to destroy their villages, townships, and cities with fatal and chemical weapons.

These inhuman attacks and aggressions were foiled by the heroism of the brave peshmerga and the strong will of the oppressed masses. Therefore, the Socialist Party, the Independence Party, and the People's Party are bowing in appreciation for the heroic will of our people during and after the magnificent uprising. They also pledge to the people of Kurdistan to further attempt to achieve the noble national goals and the right to self-determination of the Kurdish people, who will realize independence in the final stage. They also will fight with determination to pool the ranks of the people and the Kurdistan Front and to work to change the difficult economic situation, to construct Kurdistan, to secure a free and democratic life, to achieve social justice, and to protect human rights, something which is considered to be a primary goal. Thus, the joint leadership of these parties will form a unified leadership. They will hold a unified conference in the near future to define the method and bylaws of this new leadership.

O honorable sons of Kurdistan: Be assured that this good news is the birth of a new party and a giant, historic step toward achieving the interests of the strugglers and honest sons of our people. They also pledge to be an honest tool to achieve the hope and aspirations of the Kurds and to expand the liberation base of the struggling people in a free and democratic Kurdistan under the supremacy of the law. Yet, we open the door of loyalty and struggle to all individuals, factions, and parties that share ideas, goals, and struggle. We also yearn for your honest efforts and total cooperation, because you are the pillars of force and the permanent source of authority. We have confidence and faith in the masses. Glory and pride to the righteous martyrs of the Kurds and Kurdistan. They have registered with their pure blood the epics of victory for our people's struggle to achieve freedom and the right to self- determination so that we can unify our ranks, the cornerstone of our victories.

[Signed] The joint leadership of the Kurdistan Socialist Party, the Kurdistan Independence Democratic Party, the Kurdistan People's Democratic Party

'Allied' Leaders Discuss Relations

NC0906073692 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Kurdistan in Arabic 1713 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] The leaders of the allied parties—the People's Democratic Party of Kurdistan, the Kurdish Socialist Party, and the Kurdish Democratic Independence Party—held a meeting on 3 June in the city of [name indistinct]. They discussed relations among the three allied parties and ways to further develop them, in addition to developments in Kurdistan and other issues.

The leaders agreed to continue such meetings in the future.

Local Government Head Interviewed

NC0906081792 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Kurdistan in Arabic 1720 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] [Interview with Dr. Fu'ad Ma'sum, Patriotic Union of Kurdistan political bureau member charged with forming the first local government in Iraqi Kurdistan, by an unidentified correspondent; place, date not given—recorded]

[Correspondent] The first session of the Kurdistan Parliament on 4 June 1992 placed the people of Iraqi Kurdistan at the beginning of the road to parliamentary democracy and to rebuilding what the saboteurs destroyed. This march requires the completion of major tasks, particularly in these difficult circumstances for Kurdistan, which is beleaguered economically and administratively, and knows the dictatorship's vast destruction. Diagnosing and exploring the tasks of Iraqi Kurdistan's local government, we met brother Dr. Fu'ad Ma'sum, a member of the political bureau of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan [PUK], who is charged with forming the first local government in Iraqi Kurdistan. We hope he will describe to our listeners and our people the main tasks awaiting his expected government.

[Ma'sum] The government's main task will be to rebuild the ruined economy, its infrastructure destroyed by the Iraqi authorities [words indistinct]. They imposed an economic blockade on Kurdistan and stopped paying employees and pensioners. The government's first task is to rebuild the economy, the second is to reorganize the administration, and the third is to issue a law on employment in Kurdistan. There are other tasks, but these three are the most important.

[Correspondent] The dictatorial regime is feverishly trying to scare our Arab brothers, neighboring countries, and even the world, saying that events in Kurdistan represent secession from Iraq.

[Ma'sum] The Iraqi authorities frequently resort to raising these false claims. You know there is no intention to secede because secession is not a slogan or an expression of intention; it must have material bases, which do not exist in the current international circumstances. The Iraqi authorities resort to this method in an attempt to convince the Iraqi people, specifically the Arab brothers in Iraq, the Arab states, and the neighboring states, of the gravity of this issue. Events in Kurdistan are not secessionist or a step toward it, but are an attempt to organize the administration and improve the economy, for which the regime is primarily responsible. This democratic atmosphere in Kurdistan scares the regime more than anything. The regime does not want to see in Kurdistan, which is a part of Iraq, any democratic ambitions or any practical steps toward democracy. The regime is not against democracy only in Iraqi Kurdistan, but against democracy worldwide. This is the nature of any dictatorial regime.

[Correspondent] We noticed, and so did the foreign guests and correspondents, that parliament's opening session was simple, unaccompanied by any ceremonies. Has this to do with the difficult living conditions in Kurdistan or the Kurdish Parliament deciding on hard work instead of slogans?

[Ma'sum] Ceremonies are certainly a huge expense. Work must be emphasized, not ceremonies. We are facing harsh economic conditions. God willing, next year, after we achieve something for the people, we will have the right to hold a big celebration on parliament's first anniversary.

[Correspondent] Dr. Fu'ad Ma'sum, do you have a message to address to our Iraqi brothers in central and southern Iraq and in the western desert?

[Ma'sum] We in Kurdistan tell them that our hearts are with you. We believe and feel that they sympathize with our cause because ours is the cause of democracy. If circumstances have helped Kurdistan to achieve some of its aspirations, the brothers in southern and in central Iraq will do something for freedom and democracy. The Iraqi authorities' propaganda is groundless. The Kurdish

people in Iraq are suffering at the hands of the Iraqi regime because it is a dictatorial regime, the ugliest form of dictatorship. Its practices against the Kurdish people are unprecedented and it is resorting to the same against the Arab people. Our problem in Iraq is one of democracy. Our stand must be the same, whether in Kurdistan, in central Iraq, or in southern Iraq. God willing, the Iraqi people's goals and dreams will be achieved very shortly and the flag of freedom and democracy will fly in Baghdad.

Anti-Regime Reportage by Rebel Radio Stations

Forces Shifted to Baghdad From Mosul

NC0806190792 (Clandestine) Voice of the Iraqi People in Arabic 1400 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] The tyrant's regime issued urgent orders last week to move military units from Mosul to Baghdad. Iraqi opposition sources have confirmed that these orders were given to troops in most of the military camps in Mosul and its sub-districts.

The sources cite a high-ranking administrative officer in Mosul as saying that the orders were urgent and vague. According to the officer, this created anxiety and anticipation in the tyrant's army. The sources say this implies that something important has happened, or is about to happen, in Baghdad.

Rations, Fuel Supplies Cut in South

NC0806143592 (Clandestine) Voice of Rebellious Iraq in Arabic 1320 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] The 'Aflaqite clique continues to terrorize our people in the south. Yesterday, Saddam's henchmen emptied the food warehouses and silos in the south. His henchmen also decreased the amount of rations distributed to the people because of a shortage in supplies caused by the [words indistinct] Saddam's men. Food prices have skyrocketed as a result of the corrupt regime's unjust siege, meant to starve our people.

Saddam recently issued orders to his men in the marshlands to prevent fuel and gasoline from reaching the region. This is a desperate attempt to put pressure on the popular uprising groups that have humiliated Saddam's men in the south and captured all kinds of equipment and supplies from the defeated [words indistinct].

Regime Pilot Ambushed in Baghdad

NC0806141892 (Clandestine) Voice of Rebellious Iraq in Arabic 1320 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] In response to the tyrant regime's bestial acts against our sons, especially its latest aggression in the southern marshlands and surrounding areas, a popular group of the sons of the popular uprising carried out a courageous operation recently in the al-Jadidah section of Baghdad. They ambushed the criminal pilot 'Abd-al-Husayn Fashi and carried out God's sentence and the will of the people against him, may he go to hell.

The cowardly pilot has committed many crimes against the women and children of the marshlands, and did nothing to confront the coalition aircraft during the Gulf war.

'Arafat Accuses Mosad of Assassinating Busaysu

Allegations 'Totally Ridiculous'

TA0806141992 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1400 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Excerpts] PLO chief Yasir 'Arafat has accused the Israeli Mosad of having assassinated 'Atif Busaysu in Paris. [passage omitted]

Ehud Gol, the prime minister's media adviser, has said in reaction that the allegations are totally ridiculous and unworthy of comment. [passage omitted]

Shamir 'Knows Nothing'

TA0806152492 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1500 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir says he knows nothing about the assassination of the PLO man in Paris. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the prime minister made these remarks this afternoon in the Lower Galilee village of Bu'ayna, where he was given honorary citizenship.

A spokesman for the Israeli Embassy in Paris has said that, in his view, the assassination was the result of strife within the PLO. [passage omitted]

AP in Paris has received a telephone call saying that French Kakh members murdered Busaysu. The Kakh movement in Israel refused to comment.

Kahana Hay Denies Role

TA0906085792 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 9 Jun 92 pp A1, A6

[Report by Eytan Rabin, Yosi Melman, and agencies]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] AP reported yesterday that its Paris offices received two anonymous phone calls—one from a man who claimed to represent the Kakh Movement and the other from a man who presented himself as the Kahana Hay Movement spokesman—both assuming responsibility for the Busaysu murder. [passage omitted]

Responding to the report, Yequti'el Ben-Ya'aqov, one of the leaders of the Kahana Hay Movement in Israel, said that his movement does not engage in terrorist activity, although it does train Jewish youths in Paris, London, and the United States to defend themselves against anti-Semitic organizations.

Ben-Ya'aqov added that the claim put forth in the telephone call, allegedly made on behalf of his movement, cannot be correct because the movement strongly opposes illegal activity. "It is often the case that bodies associated with us but which operate outside of our movement hitch a ride on our reputation," Ben-Ya'aqov said.

Kakh members were unavailable for comment last night.

When the report about the Busaysu murder reached the Gaza Strip, three days of mourning were declared and a demonstration was staged at the al-Shati' refugee camp. Youths started throwing rocks at Army soldiers, and four Palestinians were injured when the soldiers fired their weapons in an attempt to disperse the rioters.

Four Die in Unrest Over Killing

NC0806201292 Paris AFP in English 1555 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Gaza City, Occupied Gaza Strip, June 8 (AFP) - Soldiers shot four Palestinians among dozens who took to the streets of a Gaza refugee camp on Monday as news spread of the murder of a PLO official in Paris, witnesses said.

Youngsters pelted soldiers with stones and tried to close off alleys of Shatti camp, which is near the Gaza City home of Palestine Liberation Organisation security chief 'Atif Busaysu, the witnesses said.

The PLO accused the Israeli intelligence agency Mosad of killing Busaysu outside a Paris hotel overnight Sunday-Monday and swore vengeance. An Israeli government official denied the charge.

Two of the wounded Palestinians were taken to hospital and one was in serious condition, doctors said. The other two were less seriously hurt and carried to Palestinian homes for first aid.

The clash with security forces was continuing as the sun went down, the witnesses said.

The main PLO faction Fatah declared three days of mourning on the Gaza Strip for Busaysu, who was involved in the massacre of 11 Israeli athletes at the Munich Olympics in 1972, according to Israeli and Palestinian sources.

250 Workers Leave Gaza; Strike Marks Intifadah

TA0906050192 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0400 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Text] About 250 workers from the Gaza Strip went to their jobs in Israel this morning. A Qol Yisra'el reporter notes that the number of workers was unusually small due to a half-day strike declared by the Unified Leadership in the territories to mark the 55th month of the intifadah. Yesterday, the closure of the Gaza Strip was partially lifted to allow a limited number of workers to return to their jobs in Israel.

An Israeli was moderately wounded when a stone hit his car in Bethlehem last night. The man was taken to hospital for treatment.

Three petrol bombs were thrown at an Army patrol in Hebron. No one was injured and no damage was caused. A petrol bomb was also thrown at an Army patrol in the Tulkarm area village of Shuwaykah. Again no one was injured and no damage was caused.

[Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew on 9 June carries a report by Eytan Rabin on page A2 adding: "Yesterday, the first day in which the closure imposed on the Gaza Strip was lifted, only 976 laborers left the Strip to go to work for 92 Israeli employers. Hundreds of laborers were sent back home and were not allowed to leave for work. As a comparison, 14 days ago, before the closure was imposed, some 40,000 Gazans left the Strip for work in Israel."]

Employers Demonstrate; Cheered on by Gaza Workers

Gaza Declared Closed Military Zone

TA0906062392 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0600 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Text] Dozens of Jewish employers who did not receive permission to transport workers from the Gaza Strip staged a demonstration at the Erez checkpoint. Our correspondent Moti Amir reports that the employers blocked the main road from Gaza to the security roadblock for a short time while several hundred waiting workers cheered them on. IDF [Israel Defense Forces] officers immediately declared the entire Gaza Strip a closed military zone until midnight.

Closure Order Retracted

TA0906092092 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0900 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Text] The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] spokesman has said the Gaza Strip is not a closed military zone. He said the IDF is now looking for the officer who issued the order this morning, declaring the Strip a closed military zone until midnight and who ordered a Qol Yisra'el reporter to leave the area. Our correspondent Moti Amir reports the order was issued after dozens of Jewish employers demonstrated at the Erez checkpoint to protest the fact that they were not permitted to pick up laborers for work.

Intelligence Official on Iran, 'Arafat Allegation

TA0806150892 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1400 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Iran is conducting a very worrisome nuclear project and will be capable of reaching independent nuclear capability by the end of the decade, Major General Uri Sagi, head of the Intelligence Branch, estimates, according to our military correspondent 'Ido Baum.

Gen. Sagi said today that Iran is investing a great deal of effort in developing the infrastructure for a nuclear project. Sagi estimated that within eight to 10 years, Iran will have a nuclear capability if action is not taken to destroy the project.

[Begin Sagi recording] Iran is conducting a nuclear fusion project which might cause us to be concerned about our existence and basic security if and when that process become irreversible. I do not want to frighten you because that is not the situation now, but if with time the Iranian effort is not foiled, and it can be foiled—if it is not slowed down or stopped—and it can be slowed down and stopped—then with time that potential will become real and by the end of the decade, which is also the end of the century, it will be possible for Iran to achieve an independent nuclear capability. [end recording]

Gen. Sagi also talked about Israeli Air Force activity in south Lebanon. In his view, Hizballah has understood the message. That can be learned from the announcements by the Lebanese Government and what is happening in the field, Gen. Sagi said.

The Intelligence Branch's investigation indicates that the terrorist squad which landed in Elat last week belonged to a three- member Fatah squad. All three trained in bases in Libya before leaving on their mission.

Gen. Sagi also said that he does not know about any Israeli involvement in the murder of the PLO official in Paris today but noted that 'Atif Bsisu had a rich terrorist past, which began with the murder of the Israeli athletes at the Munich Olympics and other attacks for the Black September and Fatah organizations.

[Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew at 1400 GMT on 8 June carries a report on Gen. Sagi's comments on Bsisu's assassination and adds: "The intelligence chief refused to comment on 'Arafat's charge that the Mosad murdered Bsisu and said he read about it this morning."]

Comments on Elat, Strikes on Hizballah

TA0806181092 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Arabic 1630 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Interview with Major General Uri Sagi, the Intelligence Branch commander, by Dani Levi; broadcast in progress; place and date not given—recorded in Hebrew with Arabic subtitles]

[Excerpts] [Sagi] The attacks on Hizballah were designed to convey an unequivocal message both to the Lebanese authorities and the Syrians, who bear most of the responsibility for everything that is happening there. The message was that the recent developments are unacceptable, and perhaps even intolerable, to us. I am glad to note that the raids themselves, all of them, hit Hizballah targets, whether they were barracks or bases. Due to our fear—justifiable in my personal and in our collective views—of injuring civilians, we selected special timing for each of the raids—with the exception of the raid on (Janatah), which was a military location—to reduce the risk of harming civilians as much as possible.

[Levi] In your opinion, do the Israeli raids on terrorist concentrations in Lebanon contain a danger of an escalation between us and the Syrians?

[Sagi] I believe that the Syrians also understand that those attacks are aimed at Hizballah and its activities and are not aimed directly at any other element. Our aim, however, and this was stressed, is that the Syrians—who are in control of what is happening in Lebanon

without being curtailed by anybody—and the Lebanese Government will do everything they can to prevent Hizballah from carrying out that activity, and to disarm it if necessary. What was done with all the terrorist organizations and all the other opposition movements must, in our view, also be implemented with Hizballah. [passage omitted]

In the foreseeable future, I have no doubt that Iraq, which was the backbone of any capability to form an eastern Arab coalition against us, has been seriously weakened, that it can be supervised, and that its military capability has been reduced. I believe that there are also other reasons which bring the Arab states in general, and Syria specifically—as Syria, after all, is the key state that can be seen as forming a military threat to the State of Israel—to the conclusion that, at this stage, a threat to use military force against Israel does not assure them of the desired outcome. Therefore, in the short run the military threat has declined. Will that also be the case in the long run? Time will tell.

[Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew at 1600 GMT on 8 June says that Gen. Sagi told reporters that "the terrorist captured in Elat last week belonged to 'Arafat's Fatah and not to an extremist Muslim group as the terrorist had initially told his interrogators. The terrorist trained in Libya under the command of a Fatah official whose job is to prepare squads which operate by sea. The terrorists crossed into Egypt and from al-Nuwaybi' they passed to al-'Aqabah. In Jordan, the squad met with a liaison man and received weapons, and a day and a half later they crossed the gulf to Elat." Gen. Sagi said that the squad's aim was "to attack soldiers and to take hostages."]

Discusses Syrian Military Buildup

TA0806185192 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1700 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] The head of IDF [Israel Defense Forces] military intelligence, Major General Uri Sagi, says he is not pessimistic about the possibility of eventually reaching an agreement with Syria, but in an interview with reporter Alan Ben-'Ami, he does express his concern about the Syrians continued military build-up while the peace process continues:

[Begin recording] [Sagi] For the time being, at least, they participated in the peace talks, and they did it voluntarily, so I do not have any doubts that they would like to get or to achieve anything from the peace talks, or to put it in my way, they would like to get the Golan Heights back, if they can by avoid using military force. [sentence as heard] On the other hand, they understand very well that they cannot, accord ng to their attitude, lag behind the Israelis in the military field. They assume that if they want in the future to wage any kind of war or any military activity against Israel they want to have their capability to do so. So, in this regard, they are trying to build up their military machinery, which is very frightening sometimes. As far as I am concerned, they are trying obsessively to build up not only their military machinery, but to buy almost everything openly all over the world. You probably know that just lately they bought the modern sophisticated tanks, T-72M1, from Russia and Czechoslovakia. They already bought Scud C missiles from North Korea and so on. So, in this regard, simultaneously the Syrians are trying to pull the strings in order to make sure that either they can achieve something from the peace talks or at least to be ready in the case of war.

[Ben-'Ami] So you are not pessimistic that the possibility of reaching some sort of peace agreement with the Syrians is an impossible mission?

[Sagi] I am not pessimistic. Just the opposite sometimes, but as you probably know, I am getting to be a little bit on my toes in order to make sure that I am not surprised. [end recording]

Paper Warned Against Running 'Abd-Rabbuh Remarks

TA0806083892 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 8 Jun 92 p 4

[Report by Mikhal Sela']

[Excerpt] As Palestinians look for ways to overcome the problem of internecine killings, the military censor yesterday officially warned the East Jerusalem paper AL-FAJR not to publish statements by Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh welcoming an initiative to this effect. According to senior editor 'Ali al-Khalili, the censor warned that steps would be taken against the paper if the publication of such remarks were to recur.

In a first-page report 10 days ago, AL-FAJR quoted 'Abd-Rabbuh, a member of the PLO leadership in Tunis, as welcoming the initiative of Gazans who had drafted a social charter calling for a halt to the murder of suspected collaborators. [passage omitted]

Peace Marchers' Visitor Permits Curtailed

Jerusalem March Permit Revoked

TA0806181392 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1700 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] The visitors' permits of the 110 foreign nationals who participated in the 7 June peace march have been reduced to several days. Our police affairs correspondent Moshe Nussbaum reports that tomorrow, after Interior Ministry teams advise the detainees of the arrangements for their departure from Israel and the restrictions to which they will be subject until then, the group will be released from detention. They will be barred from participating in meetings, processions, demonstrations, or any form of disturbances.

The police have also revoked the permit granted the peace marchers to hold another march along the former line between East and West Jerusalem on 10 June.

The detainees denied tonight that their trip and participation in the protest had been financed by Palestinian bodies connected to the PLO.

'Mass Deportation' Opposed

TA0806103192 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1000 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] The Foreign and Interior Ministries are opposed to a police proposal to deport the 115 foreign peace marchers detained yesterday near the Green Line. The Foreign Ministry believes that such a mass deportation might create a diplomatic incident and provide the demonstrators with additional publicity.

This morning, three of the demonstrators were released: a member of the Belgian Upper Chamber of Senate and two Israeli citizens, one of whom is a minor due to take his matriculation exams this week.

Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that in the course of their interrogation, it became clear that the foreign demonstrators are closely associated with Palestinian bodies supported by PLO funds.

The Tehiya Movement has demanded that the demonstrators be deported at once, while HADASH [Democratic Front for Peace and Equality] has asked that they be released.

Foreign Ministry Denies Opposing Measures

TA0806133092 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1200 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] The Foreign Ministry spokesman in Jerusalem has firmly denied the report that the Foreign Ministry is opposed to the steps taken against the peace marchers who were detained yesterday on the Green Line. The rebuttal was reported by our political correspondent Arye Golan.

This morning, three of the detained demonstrators were released.

At the cabinet meeting today, ministers were advised that one of the possibilities weighed in connection with the detained marchers was an annulment of their tourist visas. It was pointed out that the demonstrators' entry visas included the customary proviso of correct behavior and that the visas can be revoked. Government sources stressed that, in any event, the marchers would not be deported; their stay in Israel would be merely cut short.

Israeli Car Torched; Curfew in Tulkarm District

TA0606190292 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Hebrew 1800 GMT 6 Jun 92

[Text] 'Abd Bazur, a 31-year-old resident of the village of Raba in Janin District, was murdered by masked persons on suspicion of collaboration with Israel. Our correspondent in the territories Amir Hay reports that his body was found near the village with signs of violence, burning, and shooting; 9-mm cartridge cases were found near the body. The family members of the murdered man told our correspondent that 'Abd Bazur was taken for interrogation by a group of masked persons yesterday. The body was transferred to the Abu- Kabir forensic institute.

A curfew was imposed on the village of 'Azzun in the Tulkarm District earlier this evening, in the wake of an incident in which stones were thrown at a passing Israeli vehicle in the area. Its windshield was smashed, but there were no casualties.

A tourist was injured in the head by a stone when a car in which she was riding was stoned on the Mount of Olives in East Jerusalem this evening. She was slightly injured and transferred to a Magen David Adom clinic for treatment.

Our correspondent Uri Kohen-Aharonov adds that an Israeli car, a Renault, was set on fire behind the King David Hotel in west Jerusalem this evening. The car was damaged, and the police are investigating.

U.S. Conveys 'Gratitude' in Dotan Affair Probe

TA0906061992 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0500 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Text] The U.S. Administration has transmitted to Israel a letter expressing its gratitude for the defense establishment's assistance in the U.S. investigation of the Rami Dotan affair, security sources disclosed this morning. These reports come in the wake of a U.S. senator's demand that the Department of Defense hold up military aid to Israel if its does not permit the Americans to interrogate Dotan personally. Our army affairs correspondent 'Ido Baum reports:

Israeli security sources said this morning that they know nothing about any message sent by State Department officials warning that the administration might hold up military aid to Israel if the Americans are not permitted to interrogate Rami Dotan, who was in charge of Air Force procurement. The U.S. threat, if it exists, might have originated with Congressman John Dingell, who is conducting the investigation into the American side of the Rami Dotan affair. Dingell wants to interrogate Dotan to ascertain whether wrong use was made of U.S. funds and to press charges against those responsible. Security sources in Israel reiterate that Israel is prepared to have Dotan interrogated only under certain circumstances.

A team of investigators from the U.S. Justice Department recently visited Israel, toured Air Force bases, and met with and questioned Air Force and defense establishment officials linked to the Dotan affair. The security sources said this morning that no spirit of dissatisfaction with the handling of the Dotan affair is emanating from the United States. On the contrary, in an official letter sent several days ago, the Americans thanked Israel for its cooperation in the investigation.

DA, New Liberal Party Air Election Ads

TA0706200292

[Editorial Report] Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Hebrew at 1730 GMT on 7 June airs another 30-minute election campaign broadcast, including ads by two parties not previously covered and an announcement by the Central Election Committee.

An ad by the National Movement for Democracy and Aliyah, an immigrant party headed by Yuliy Kosharovsky and known for short as DA, Democracy and Aliyah, states: "All of us want rapid absorption. We were neither born nor grew up here, but want to be party to decisions that determine our fate." The ad continues, "We can contribute in every sphere, from sports to medicine, but we do not have representation or a podium; we do not have the same starting point, in fact." The ad notes that a vote for DA will give the immigrants a good starting point and will provide for a "better Israel."

An ad by the New Liberal Party, led by Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i, emphasizes that inflation should be curbed and that the economy should be handled by "a professional, since Israel must have a successful economy." The ad elaborates on Moda'i's achievements as finance minister, past and present, and Moda'i himself comes on, declaring: "We have no choice. To reach real peace, full security, and higher living standards, Israel must have a successful economy. Only when our cake becomes bigger will each one of us receive more—more salary, more education, more health, more money to make ends meet. In these elections you must choose what is genuinely important to you, the party that places the economy at the top."

The broadcast ends with an announcement by the Central Election Committee on telephone numbers that voters can call, toll-free, "to check on their voting rights and venue" from 8 June and until the ballot boxes close at 1900 GMT on 23 June. The information will be supplied in Hebrew, Russian, and Amharic.

Paper Voices Support for King Husayn's Speech

JN0806205692 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 8 Jun 92 pp 1, 22

[Editorial: "The Arab Hashemite Appeal"]

[Text] With a spirit flowing with resolve, determination, and profound self-confidence, King Husayn addressed an impassioned appeal to the entire nation—the poor, the educated, and the martyrs—from the land of Mu'tah—the scene of the first [Islamic] confrontation with the Romans. He urged them to return to brotherhood, justice, and freedom; to refer to their great book; and to seek refuge in a haven of their own strength, potential, and unity in a world where nothing but faith provides protection and where only those who possess ability and will can find a place.

As his majesty the king addressed this honest, sincere, and forceful appeal, and as he communicated to this nation some of its early history and march, his confidence and faith in this nation's present and future became deeper as he recalled how the Jordanians held fast to this land and passed through years like that of the al-Ramadah [a year of famine in early Islamic times] and a siege like that of the al-Khandaq [trench; reference to a battle in early Islamic times when believers came under siege by unbelievers]. At the same time, Jordanians have remained genuine advocates of the nation's independence, unity, and sovereignty, unchanged by the injustice of our kinsmen, resistant to pressures, and unyielding under siege.

From Mu'tah [battle in early Islamic times] to al-Karamah [battle in 1968 between Jordanian and Israeli troops], banners have been protected by blood and have been kept fluttering high, testifying that the grandchildren of the men who believed in God and their nation and who led the army of the Great Arab Revolt from Hejaz to Damascus are keeping the pledge and are maintaining their clarity of vision, their clean hearts, and their zealous spirits, like their forefathers, the men of the first conquest [of Mecca, when Prophet Muhammad and his supporters captured Mecca from unbelievers]. They are vowing to remain content and patient, Muslim Arabs, honorable Hashemites, whether others are satisfied or dissatisfied.

Together, hand in hand, we have enabled this homeland to cross the difficult bridge—the bridge of freedom and progress. Despite the difficult years and the cruel challenges, we have kept the pledge. We heeded the call of duty toward Palestine and Jerusalem. We defended them with our souls and opened our hearts and homes to the kinfolk and brothers from the western bank of the river. Together we set a sublime example of Arab unity. We received consecutive waves of immigrations, including the most recent one, when the nation's vast land became too small to welcome our kinfolk. Thus, our brother returnees left the land of thirst, salt, and burned oil only to find Amman opening its gates to bring us all together. As always, they found this capital wearing the pan-Arab cloak, entering the stage of happiness, and becoming the capital of Arab culture and the haven of democracy.

While proceeding on the path of progress and economic and social awakening, we had to accept the challenge of comprehensive peace on the basis of international legitimacy. It is the peace that will restore Palestinian rights to their owners under the legitimate leadership they have chosen and in true coordination with the Palestinian brothers. Meanwhile, we will remain one community on this land, regardless of the origins and ancestral lineage of people, until together we choose, in total freedom, the formula of future relations.

King Husayn's historic speech in Mu'tah was the appeal of a Hashemite Arab. The speech smacks of absolute confidence in the firm will of this nation, which did not yield to injustice and which, at the same time, regrets the situation of the Arabs at the present stage. When this nation accomplished the first steps of its awakening, the enemies and its ungrateful sons came upon it suddenly. This nation emerged from this experience torn and separated from its past and present time.

Rallying around King Husayn, we will continue to repeat this Hashemite appeal until this nation wakes up. We also will continue to be advocates of justice and goodness; we will support every brother who moves toward us in the name of the free and honorable nation. This nation will hold the grounds of awakening and struggle and side with freedom, democracy, and human dignity.

We will continue to say to our cousins, who are not aware of this, that we do not stand by injustice but by the true path. This nation will find the true path soon and carry its message to the new age.

Editorial Views Aftermath of Gulf War Alliances

JN0806183092 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 8 Jun 92 pp 1, 27

[Editorial: "They Do Not Give Us a Chance To Mourn Them..!"]

[Text] We will not get tired of stating and repeating ourselves. Those to whom we want to convey our message have turned a deaf ear to every honorable stance and to every word of truth. They have chosen a position and they do not care if the nation listens to them or if they listen to the nation. Having adopted such a position, they have become a burden to the homeland's march and an obstacle hampering its pan-Arab and humanitarian aspirations.

So that no one will be misled into believing that we are saying this in self-defense or in reply to accusations, we immediately assert that we are defending the nation against those who have employed the Gulf crisis to establish a hostile alliance and to utilize this alliance's barbaric military machine to strike at the efforts of a century in the pursuit of knowledge and progress to meet the demands of this age.

If it is natural for some backward people in this nation to believe that their interests can only continue under the canopy of ignorance and that their eagerness to enjoy the luxuries of this world can only be fulfilled under the canopy of an arrogant rule and the people's oppression, then it is equally natural for those who are faithful to knowledge, progress, and democracy to do all that they can to expose the conspiracy and to place the nation and its generations in front of their enemies. These are the sons of this nation who have deviated from their affiliation to it and who have become the enemies lying in wait for it.

We in this country proceed from a series of constants that cannot be changed by poverty or wealth, or by pressure or temptations. We realize that some of those who had been our brothers were dismayed that we did not stand in the enemy's trench to defend their cheap interests or to participate in the conspiracy. They were dismayed at our rejection and our steadfastness. They were dismayed to discover that those who triumphed militarily in the aggression against Iraq and their nation are really the ones who have been defeated. The victorious ones are those who uphold principles, morals, ethics, and honor even if they do not have white or yellow oil, even if they are burdened with debts, and even if they continue their steadfastness while the wealth of others and all their alliances do not benefit them.

In less than two months, the entire nation will commemorate the third anniversary of this hard test that was imposed upon it. We, the world, and all the brothers, friends, and enemies around us follow what is taking place and wonder: Who are the besieged and who are those outside the siege? Who are the ones suffering from the lack of food and medicine? Who are the ones who are not suffering despite a serious lack of honor, ethics, and affiliation?

Who has triumphed after less than two years? Is it the armies of the alliance and its assets, or is it this nation and its honorable ones, its knights, sons, martyrs, and children? These are the ones who are mockingly and gloatingly observing how the defeated ones are boasting of their victory, how they are not ashamed of their defeat, and how they continue to insult us and do not give us even one chance to mourn them although we know they do not deserve this. Real death is not the loss of life. It is the loss of affiliation; it is the betrayal of the nation's past and future and the morals and principles that constitute its mission.

Paper Examines Jordanian-Palestinian Relations

JN0806092692 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 8 Jun 92 p 4

[By Lamis K. Andoni]

[Text] The emotional scene of His Majesty King Husayn hugging Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasir 'Arafat outside King Husayn Medical City Friday, while the latter left hospital after his successful head surgery, has struck Jordanians and Palestinians as the closest brotherly and sincere encounter between the two leaders. After years of knowing each other, working with each other, competing with each other and contesting each other's legitimacy, even fighting against one another, Friday's encounter was by far the most expressive of how far the two leaders have come recently.

Since last Monday, when Mr. 'Arafat was hurriedly admitted to the hospital, Jordanians and Palestinians, in Jordan and the Israeli occupied territories, have been watching the Monarch talking to journalists almost daily on the progress of the Palestinian leader's recovery.

Up until Friday night, when a tired but cheerful 'Arafat emerged from the Medical City, King Husayn was effectively the atler ego of the Palestinian leader—in a rare expression of the inseparable destinies of the two people.

As Jordanians and Palestinians watched the evolution of the close human relationship between the two leaders, memories of sweet and bitter, even tragic, past flashed back in the minds of thousands—many wondering if that tragic chapter in the two people's history could have been avoided.

The scenes did not only invoke happy and sad memories, but also sparked hope that the two peoples will find support in each other in the future, in case Israel tries to impose a solution that could infringe on either of the two people's rights.

It is no secret that even though Jordan and the Palestinians have been part of a joint negotiating team, differences and mutual suspicions have remained, partly hindering effective coordination at the Middle East peace process.

The mutual suspicions, which are not admitted publicly but implied in statements, gestures and expressed sometimes privately, do not only stem from the past experience. Rather, tension, which surfaces from time to time in different forms, finds its roots in the fact that Israel, and even some people in Washington, could contemplate a settlement that involves a substitute homeland for the Palestinians in Jordan or exclude Palestinian national rights within the context of Jordanian authority over some parts of the West Bank.

As a result, the two sides, separately, inside and outside the delegations, have been engaged in conscious and subconscious efforts each to assert their separate identity, as they are haunted by the fear that one identity will be used to erase the other.

Therefore, it was to be expected that the Palestinian leadership, or at least the prevalent school of thought in the PLO, would still view the Jordanian role as a potential threat to independent Palestinian representation.

On the other side of the equation, the drive, by some political trends in Jordan, to assert Jordan's "Jordanian" identity, in view of the dual identity of the population, has also been asserting itself as the peace process has underscored how the overlapping of the two identities and destinies would take place.

Both sides, however, have been reluctant so far to delve deeply into discussing a well defined and detailed framework for the future relationship, even though the idea and proposal of the Jordanian-Palestinian "confederation" comes up for debate every so often.

The Jordanian side apparently steers away from statements, or actions, that could be interpreted as an indication of reversing the 1988 relinquishing of responsibility for the West Bank to the PLO; While the PlO is cautious, in all of its moves and decisions, to clearly assert an independent Palestinian representation and not allow Jordan "the upper hand"—a situation that in the Palestinian view could be used to determine Palestinian representation and national rights.

The problem, however, that the two sides could not and cannot avoid is the historic interdependence between them. After all, not only will any future settlement involve some form of association, that could even be unity, but Jordan also remains the only party that has an internationally recognized legal claim over the West Bank.

This fact springs to the surface every time the peace process reaches a deadlock over Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories, especially when the Israeli delegation insists that the only issues the Palestinian delegation could discuss are interim arrangements that do not involve an Israeli territorial pullout.

Such deadlock prompted some PLO officials, two months ago, to call for the declaration of a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation prior to an Israeli withdrawal. Proponents of this view had then argued that a declaration of a confederation would give the Jordanians a greater role to support Palestinian demands for an Israeli withdrawal.

But both sides have apparently for now shelved the idea. For the Palestinians there is the threat of undermining Palestinian representation while Jordan does not want to be seen, as being the party negotiating away Palestinian rights.

The overlapping and complexity of the relationship extends to the Jordanian political scene where it takes amusing, but often sensitive, forms.

For example, the efforts of a Palestinian-initiated opposition political movement to separate from Palestinian groups and form Jordanian parties, after the 1988 disengagement, have not been successful so far in defining clear cut lines, something which might even be impossible to do in the first place.

In fact, most of the Jordanian political parties, whether those which emerged in the fifties or the sixties, sprouted from a joint Jordanian-Palestinian struggle for liberating Palestine and consolidating democracy and sovereignty of Jordan. Thus, many political activists have roots in both Jordanian and Palestinian civic movements, which were totally inseparable in the fities, and many became part of the Palestinian resistance movement in the late sixties and beyond.

Consequently, it is always amusing, albeit a serious indicator of the complexity of the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship, when prominent activists, with long-standing backgrounds in the Palestinian struggle, are now leading Jordanian parties and talk in their speeches "about our brethren, the Palestinian or Jordanian people."

To some Jordanian proponents of "Jordanisation," these activities are signs "of the subordination of the Jordanian identity to the Palestinians." But the history of the popular organizations and parties in Jordan shows that this overlapping started at a point when pan-Arab nationalism, or at least the ideological identity, was the starting point for the formation of political parties in the country, even when Jordanians joined the armed Palestinian resistance groups in the sixties.

The democratisation process in Jordan has, to a great extent succeeded in defusing potentially serious tensions and, probably, in preventing a serious political crisis between the PLO and Jordan.

But there is a growing feeling and belief, on both sides, that it is time to address all the aspects of the relationship, including the sensitive future of the Palestinians in Jordan, once a settlement is achieved, in a very candid manner.

This is crucial, especially that both sides have a genuine interest in a solution that involves a recognition of the right of return for Palestinian refugees—a prerequisite for the attainment of Palestinian national rights—and prevention of a substitute homeland for the Palestinians in Jordan.

Although it is unfair to strip the evolvement of a closer relationship between King Husayn and Mr. 'Arafat of its human symbolism, away from political rivalries, it is naive to assume that it will not have implications on the Jordanian and Palestinian psyche, particularly in overcoming mutual suspicion and paving the way for an open debate on their future.

The issues involved are far from simple, but at stake are the destinies of both sides—destinies whose tackling can no longer be avoided or evaded.

U.S. Policy 'Nourishing Radicalism' Among Arabs

JN0706171192 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 4 Jun 92 p 28

["Last Stop" column by Mu'nis al-Razzaz: "America and the Human Rights of Arabs"]

[Text] Some American officials are raising their voices, demanding that the Middle East regimes care about human rights. Perhaps these calls should be addressed, above all, to America's allies in the region. Human rights violations by the pro-America Arab regimes have reached a peak.

These U.S. officials say that Islam should not replace communism in a new cold war. But it is known that the United States itself, having pushed everyone to the brink of despair, is fueling the spirit of revenge against its interests among the Arabs and Muslims.

Without knowing it, the United States is nourishing radicalism in the region. The longstanding U.S. animosity toward Arab and Islamic ambitions and hopes about development and freedom is bound to receive extremist reaction, especially since the United States supports some undemocratic regimes.

When Jordan set its democratic experience into motion, we observed some hostile U.S. positions. Given the alleged U.S. commitment to human rights, we had thought the U.S. reaction would be encouraging. We saw with our own eyes how the United States supported anti-democratic, backward regimes and antagonized or provoked a country like Jordan, which had gained democracy and paid attention to human rights.

It would appear that these U.S. officials have missed the right addresses. They generalize and do not specify. They mix up Arab regimes because their real obsession lies in their own interests and not in the criteria and specifications of human rights.

Lebanon's Buwayz Comments on Meetings; Departs

JN0806120392 Amman Radio Jordan in English 1100 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] The Lebanese Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz left Amman for home today at the end of the quadripartite meetings held between the foreign ministers of the Arab countries participating in the Middle East peace process.

In a statement prior to his departure, the Lebanese foreign minister paid tribute to the wise leadership of His Majesty King Husayn, saying his majesty enjoys the respect and appreciation and admiration of all the Lebanese. He added that relations between his majesty and Lebanese leaders were always at their best and they are better than ever at present. Mr. Buwayz described Jordanian-Lebanese relations as historic relations characterized by cooperation, brotherhood, and friendship. He said the Amman meeting of the four Arab foreign minister has adopted a new approach in dealing with the new developments. And, he said, this approach is based on accurate calculations and not on emotional reactions.

House Condemns Killings in Bosnia-Hercegovina

JN0806163492 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1500 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] The Jordanian House of Representatives has condemned the spiteful, random, and genocidal killings in Bosnia-Hercegovina and the destruction of the landmarks of life and civilization there. In a statement issued today, the House urged the responsible Yugoslav authorities to bring an end to these massacres, to withdraw the Serbian army from the areas of conflict, and to safeguard the lives of innocent civilians.

The House declared its support for the efforts being exerted by the United Nations and international and humanitarian organizations to halt the massacres and acts of mass and random killings on the basis of religious affiliation.

Egypt Denies Diplomat's Passport Withdrawn

JN0806094992 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 8 Jun 92 p 20

[Text] SAWT AL-SHA'B has received the following clarification from the Egyptian Embassy in Amman:

With reference to the report published in SAWT AL-SHA'B yesterday, 7 June 1992, that the Egyptian Government withdrew the passport of one of its diplomats in Amman with the name Muhammad Muhammad 'Abd-al-'Alim because of his support for Iraq.

I would like to inform you that no person of this name is currently a member of the Egyptian Embassy staff in Amman. Nor, has any person of this name been a member of the Embassy staff in the past.

With best regards, Ramzi 'Allam, acting charge d'affairs and minister plenipotentiary.

Egyptian Authorities Arrest Jordanian Smugglers

JN0706073292 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 7 Jun 92 p 20

[By Nayif al-Ma'ani]

[Text] The specialized Egyptian authorities have informed the Jordanian authorities that Egyptian security organs have foiled an attempt to smuggle a large quantity of gold from Egypt to Jordan via Nuwaybi'.

A Jordanian citizen, who attempted to smuggle approximately 24 gold ingots worth $3 million, was arrested.

Three other Arab nationals were arrested while attempting to smuggle 139,000 Egyptian pounds.

Buwayz—Iran 'Promised' Help on German Hostages

NC0806172092 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz has stressed the fact that Iran promised to help find a positive solution to the issue of the two German hostages. He expressed his belief that this issue will be resolved in the coming days.

Israelis Disarming Militia; Collaboration Suspected

NC0806170892 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] The NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY today received a report from one of its correspondents in the south that the occupation forces and agent militia are maintaining a close watch on villages in the western and central sectors, particularly those villages near the liberated areas. They are setting up roadblocks and questioning people. In addition, their intelligence units are infiltrating these villages, especially Hula, Tirah, Bint Jubayl, and Markabah.

The Israelis are stripping the militia members of their weapons at night after discovering that a number of them had contacts with the resistance. Around 20 people were recently arrested and taken to prisons in Israel.

Alleged Mosad Agents in Hizballah Arrested

PM0806154992 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 6 Jun 92 p 1

[Unattributed report: "'Network of Agents' Which Infiltrated al-Musawi's Escort Force Arrested"]

[Excerpt] Paris, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT—Informed circles in Paris have received information that Lebanon's Hizballah—within the framework of the investigation into the assassination of its former Secretary General 'Abbas al-Musawi—recently arrested a group of its elements and charged them of dealing with Israeli intelligence (Mosad).

The sources said that some members of the group are from the escort force which used to guard Al-Musawi, whose movements were often shrouded in complete secrecy.

The arrests were made following a protracted investigation in which Iranian experts from the "Revolutionary Guards" took part. The sources said that immediately after the group's arrest Hizballah began changing a group of the codes which it uses to safeguard its senior officials' movements. The sources added that the nonannouncement of the Israeli infiltration reflects Hizballah officials' desire not to sully its image among its supporters.

The sources described the infiltration as the biggest since Hizballah's success a few years ago in dismantling a network that had infiltrated it and planned to kidnap the party's guide, Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah. The sources expected members of the group to be executed soon. [passage omitted]

Iranian Intelligence Officer Said Killed in South

NC0906081592 (Clandestine) Voice of the South in Arabic to Lebanon 0730 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Text] SAWT AL-KUWAYT has reported that an Iranian intelligence officer, who was operating in south Lebanon under the cover of a radio correspondent, was killed during an Israeli raid on Jibshit two weeks ago. The paper said that he was in Jibshit to supervise and plan operations against the security zone in south Lebanon and capture Israeli and South Lebanese Army troops.

SAWT AL-KUWAYT added that five members of the Iranian Revolution Guards were also killed in south Lebanon.

Buwayz Praises Results of Amman Conference

NC0806125292 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1030 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Statement by Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz at Beirut airport after his return from Amman on 8 June—recorded]

[Text] After the Beirut [cordon states] conference, the Amman conference charted a new course for the Arab parties and how they should deal with political issues. The conference made an accurate assessment of the current stage and its circumstances. This assessment was conducted objectively, with accurate calculations, and without emotional reaction or one-upmanship. We were briefed by all the delegations on the circumstances surrounding their issues. We reached an understanding on a common course for dealing with the coming phase.

I can say that the Amman meeting was a watershed in restoring Arab cohesion and reestablishing Arab accord, amity, and solidarity following some setbacks. We are on the threshold of re- consolidating this unity, which was weakened during the Gulf war.

Al-Hirawi Briefed on Meetings

NC0806134192 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1130 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz and Ambassador Suhayl Shammas, Foreign Ministry general secretary, have met with President Ilyas al-Hirawi. They briefed him on the results and atmosphere of the Amman meeting and Buwayz's meeting with Jordan's King Husayn.

Ja'ja' Comments on Phalangist Election Defeat

NC0906081092 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Excerpts] The Phalangist Party's electoral body today reelected Dr. George Sa'adah as party chairman. Sa'adah received 60 votes while Dr. Samir Ja'ja' received 53 in the second round. None of the candidates won an absolute majority in the first round, in which Dr. Sa'adah received 57 votes and Dr. Ja'ja' 55 votes.

Upon his election, Dr. Sa'adah thanked those who elected him. He affirmed that democracy in the party will continue. Sa'adah also stressed that the Phalangist Party will continue to implement the al-Ta'if agreement. [passage omitted]

Lebanese Forces Commander Dr. Samir Ja'ja' congratulated the electoral body for its choice and expressed his surprise at the result, but accepted it with good spirit. He affirmed that his relationship with the Phalangist Party will remain as it is today. Dr. Ja'ja' said:

[Begin recording] [Ja'ja'] [passage omitted] I think that these elections constitute a big reward for the party. We cannot be with and against a process; if we like it, we go along with the results, and if we don't like it, we also go along with the results. This is the nature of elections. This is how it happens, here and all over the world. Just as a man accepts victory with courage and happiness, he must accept defeat with courage and happiness. Why not? One wins one day and loses on another. I am speaking on a personal level. I say with all courage, dignity, simplicity, and happiness that I lost this election campaign. We will have another campaign tomorrow, next week, and at every break of dawn. From this premise, I congratulate the electoral body, the Phalangists, and all the Lebanese that we still have a deeply rooted party in which a political process takes place like in the most civilized country of the world.

[Unidentified correspondent] Dr. Ja'ja', were you surprised by the results?

[Ja'ja'] Frankly yes. Relatively, yes, I was surprised by the outcome. [passage omitted]

[Unidentified correspondent] Doctor, how will this affect your relationship with the Phalangist Party?

[Ja'ja'] What do you mean my relationship with the party? We are members of the party. It will be as it always has been, as if nothing has happened. This is natural. We must get used to democracy in the country. [passage omitted]

[Unidentified correspondent] Do you think that this will affect your political value?

[Ja'ja'] Absolutely not. On the contrary. No one [words indistinct] my political value. Political value is based on a person's positions, views, and political outlook. Nothing affects it. [passage omitted]

Finally, I would like to thank all those who did and did not elect me. I want to thank all the people who helped in this elections campaign and all the Lebanese. It is good this day passed and the election process took place in this manner. What happened today will disprove those skeptics and tendentious people who predicted bloodbaths and divisions. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Hizballah Figure on Officials' 'Shortcomings'

NC0406200292 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0900 GMT 4 Jun 92

[Text] Hizballah Deputy Secretary General Shaykh Na'im Qasim has accused Lebanese officials of shortcomings in supporting the steadfast people of south Lebanon. He called on them to support the resistance and stressed the need to continue cooperating with Iran and Syria. In a radio interview, he affirmed that those who support the occupation will be blamed for any escalation in activity in the area. He noted that the so-called peace negotiations are an American-Israeli attempt to impose conditions on the Arabs to accept the occupation.

Defense Minister Suspends Weapons Permits

NC0406144592 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 4 Jun 92

[Text] Defense Minister Michel al-Murr has issued a decision suspending permits to transport or possess any weapon in an area within the following boundaries: The Museum-al-Tibbiyah-Damascus road junction as far as the seashore and the Museum-Corniche al-Nahr junction to the seashore between 0600 tomorrow, Friday, until 0600 on Tuesday [5-9 June].

[In a similar report, Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic at 1030 GMT on 4 June says the order will be effective until 1800 and adds the following: "The Army command is asked to ensure that no gunmen or weapons are seen in the specified area and to escort and protect any party or political figure moving to or from the area who makes such a request."]

The defense minister issued the following statement about storming operations carried out in the past two days:

In line with a cabinet decision to continue storming operations to collect the remaining large- and medium-caliber weapons, ammunition, and other military equipment and after receiving information that there is military hardware in warehouses in J'ita, 'Aynturah, and 'Amshit, the Army Command issued orders to storm. Found were nine T-54 tanks, the chassis of four BTR troop carriers, 10 M-113 armored personnel carriers or their chassis, five engines for M-42 vehicles and T-54 tanks, six Panhard armored vehicle turrets, three Augusta Bell aircraft propellers, two helicopter electric

wiring systems, fuel tanks, trailers, various spare parts, and marine and other radar screens. The Lebanese Army confiscated this equipment.

Lebanese Forces Radio on Arms Collection

NC0406171792 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 4 Jun 92

[Excerpt] Defense Minister Michel al-Murr has suspended the permits for weapons of all types from 0600 5 June through 0600 9 June in the area bordered by the Museum-al-Tibbiyah-Damascus road junction as far as the coast and the Museum-Corniche al-Nahr junction up to the coast. [passage omitted]

It is worth noting that the weapons and equipment collected by the Army today were handed over to the Army command following the disbanding of militias and the Lebanese Forces' decision to hand their weapons to the state. These weapons and equipment were placed in known and open areas, but the Army Command did not transfer them at the time. None of them are operational and most of them are disassembled.

Israeli Gunboat Strafes Coastal Area North of Tyre

NC0906062992 Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic 0530 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Text] AFP has quoted a Palestinian source as saying that an Israeli gunboat last night strafed the southern coast off al-Rashidiyah camp with machine guns. Several houses sustained heavy damage as a result. The agency added that the enemy gunboat came close to the coast late last night and strafed an area north of Tyre with machine guns.

It is worth noting that the Israeli navy, which is active in this region, constantly intercepts commercial ships and fishing boats inside Lebanese territorial waters.

Israeli Fighters Overfly South, Beirut 9 Jun

NC0906092892 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0900 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Text] Israeli warplanes flew over the south and broke the sound barrier over the capital and the mountain this morning.

Two SLA Soldiers Killed in Mine Explosion

NC0606095892 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 6 Jun 92

[Text] An Israeli military source has announced that two South Lebanese Army [SLA] members were killed when an explosive charge went off in Jazzin today. The source said the charge went off as an SLA patrol passed through the area and that the SLA retaliated by violently bombarding Iqlim al-Tuffah.

Our correspondent reports that the two men, Jamal 'Atallah and Yusuf Hanna As'ad, were killed in a land mine explosion in Kafr Falus at 0800 today.

Groups Claim Attack; Hizballah Official Comments

NC0606183092 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 6 Jun 92

[Text] Two members of a South Lebanese Army [SLA] patrol were killed today when a land mine exploded near Kafr Falus. Our correspondent in the south says that the SLA responded with intensive shelling of Hizballah positions in Iqlim al-Tuffah. The SLA used 120 and 150-mm artillery to shell Mlita, 'Ayn Bu Siwar, al-Luwayzah, and Jarju'.

The Islamic Resistance issued a statement claiming responsibility for detonating the mine that hit the SLA patrol. The statement said that a vehicle was destroyed, two SLA personnel were killed, and others were wounded.

The National Resistance Front, which is composed of Islamic and Palestinian groups, also claimed responsibility for the Kafr Falus explosion. The front said that a squad of the Martyrs Fadl Surur and Ghassan Kanafani Unit planted a powerful explosive device on the Kafr-Falus Jazzin road. The front issued a statement saying that it carried out the attack to mark the 10th anniversary of the Israeli invasion.

Meanwhile, Israeli military planes flew low over al-Damur, al- Na'imah this afternoon, drawing antiaircraft fire.

Shaykh Nabil Tawuq, a Hizballah official in the south, said that his organization will continue its operations under all circumstances. Shaykh Tawuq said: We will carry out effective operations. We are not afraid of America or Israel. Israel is too weak to stop our operations. The future will prove what we say. Tawuq added: Others may neglect their national duties, but we oppose such people and will continue our operations. To those who call for harmony between the state and the resistance we say: Come and join the people fighting Israel; this is the only way for the government to be in harmony with the people.

In another development, Iranian food assistance began arriving this afternoon in al-Nabatiyah. At 1500, five trucks carrying foodstuffs arrived in Kafr Tibnit, close to the security strip.

Israel's Lubrani—Al-Ta'if 'No Longer Valid'

NC0406103492 (Clandestine) Voice of the South in Arabic to Lebanon 0730 GMT 4 Jun 92

[Text] Uri Lubrani, the Israeli Government's coordinator for Lebanese affairs, has said that the al-Ta'if agreement is no longer valid since Lebanese Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz said that Hizballah's weapons are not militia weapons, but resistance weapons. Lubrani refuted Minister Buwayz statement with several facts,

the most important of which is that Hizballah stockpiles are located in the southern suburb of Beirut and the Ba'labakk area, not in the south. These are large and medium weapons, such as 122-mm antiaircraft and antitank guns, 120-mm and 81-mm rocket launchers, and a number of armored vehicles. The Hizballah militia displays these weapons on important occasions, including Jerusalem Day. Lubrani said that the weapons are not used in resistance activity but to make Hizballah be the strongest Shiite militia in Lebanon.

Lubrani added that Minister Buwayz has again said that the Palestinian weapons are sacred and directed against Israel. He said this at a time, Lubrani noted, when Palestinian weapons were used to humiliate the Lebanese people in the south.

Al-Hirawi on Israeli Attacks, Internal Situation

JN0406091892 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 2 Jun 92 p 9

[Interview with Lebanese President Ilyas al-Hirawi by 'Ubayd Sultan in Beirut—date not given]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [Sultan] In light of the current dangerous Israeli escalation in south Lebanon, do you believe that this points to a fresh Israeli invasion of a part of Lebanon?

[Al-Hirawi] The Lebanese have been accustomed to Israeli attacks on their territory for 15 years. Today, with only a few weeks remaining before the Israeli parliamentary elections, they wanted this commotion to take place in the south through their artillery, aircraft, and daily attacks against innocent Lebanese. They are demolishing houses, killing innocent people, and scorching sources of livelihood as though they have been waiting for a pretext to do all this. They need no pretexts. Everyone remembers that in 1982, when the Israeli invasion took place and the capital of Beirut was occupied, the pretext was that an Israeli diplomat had been killed in London.

Today they take the demolishing of their embassy in Argentina and the attack on one of their diplomats in Istanbul as a pretext to hold Lebanon responsible.

In the first place, I have said that it is the war of others that is taking place on our territory. Meanwhile, the south is kept under the yoke of the Israeli occupation. It is known that a clear and explicit consensus on the need to implement Resolution 425 has marked the calls of sisterly countries for supporting peace in Lebanon. This was made clear at the Casablanca summit, the al-Ta'if conference, various Arab meetings, and the Baghdad summit. This and the subsequent international support, including that of the UN Security Council, apparently indicate that the entire world separates the occupation of the south from the Middle East issue.

When we received the invitation to go to the peace conference—we are peace advocates—we had hoped that this resolution would be implemented. When an accord was achieved among the Lebanese and the army was unified, it is known that we, as a state, pledged through the highest forum—the UN forum—and at a meeting with President Bush that in case the Israelis implement the UN resolution calling for withdrawal from the south, not a single shot would be fired from Lebanese territory in the direction of Israel.

We had been certain that we would see maneuvering and procrastination at the peace conference, given that the Israelis do not want peace but to maintain the situation as it now is. This state is racist and aggressive. Lebanon, however, is a peace advocate and we can only say that we are going to a real peace battle.

The current threats of invasion, of attacking sisterly Syria, and of occupying more Lebanese territory are made on the pretext that security in northern Israel is in danger. The Israelis claim this before their people and the world. The pledge we voiced before the United Nations and President Bush—the president of the world's superpower—tells the entire world that we do not seek war but that we want peace. I think that all the sisterly states also seek peace.

When we sought the implementation of Resolution 425, we did not mean to ignore the other resolutions on the Middle East, which are also of interest to us. We have vowed before God that we will do nothing unless our brothers are unanimous about it.

Pretexts are many and attacks are massive. It is now the job of the Lebanese Government to employ its available international and regional contacts to ward off this danger. I believe that the elections, which will be held on 23 June, will take place at the expense of Lebanese victims. [passage omitted]

[Sultan] Will you ask Washington to honor the promises it made in the U.S. invitation to the peace negotiations?

[Al-Hirawi] Thus far, I have nothing to say in this regard, especially since the United States is at the threshold of presidential elections. I hope—and this is their right—that the American people and not the Lebanese will say that. I hope that the president remains the same person who called for peace in the Middle East since he would be the best person to continue this process. I fear that if another president came to power, the peace conference would go the way of the wind.

[Sultan] So far Lebanon has not received the assistance and aid the brothers promised to extend to it. Are there any contacts or efforts to push the fraternal countries to fulfill their promises and obligations toward Lebanon?

[Al-Hirawi] Thank you very much for this question. This question indicates that the press of the United Arab Republic is healthy because my answer might not please you. Lebanon has the right to ask more of its brothers than of other countries. The brothers called for peace in Casablanca. Then came the invitation to the al-Ta'if conference. Lebanon fulfilled this invitation. A brother

is dutybound to help his brothers. Promises were made to us. After the Gulf war, we deeply responded to Arab sentiments. We are part of the Arabs, and we do not accept one Arab country occupying another Arab country. This was our position at the Arab summit held in Cairo.

However, I frankly ask: What guarantees do small Arab countries that are an inseparable part of the Arab world and members of the Arab League have that they will not be occupied by another Arab state that has military power? Our position was based on this. At that time, we did not ask for what we had been promised out of our concern to safeguard the family atmosphere pending the end of that crisis.

The crisis calmed down, and King Hassan II of Morocco announced in New York the formation of an Arab and international fund in support of Lebanon. His Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal was present. A date for the meeting was set, but no meeting was held. Through your paper, I address my brother Arabs and frankly ask: Is it not conceivable that any Lebanese citizen who believes in Arabism and God will question why wars and militias are ensured with all their needs yet no one, particularly the brothers, finances peace?

Has any country suffered and endured as much as Lebanon? A proof of this is what is now taking place in the south. Are we not sacrificing our blood for the brothers? Does Lebanon not deserve to be helped? After World War II, America helped Europe and economically assisted Japan—the two reasons for the war. [passage omitted]

[Sultan] In your opinion, is there a link between aid to Lebanon and participation in the multilaterals?

[Al-Hirawi] When we responded to the kind invitation to the peace conference, our answer was clear: We will not accept anything asked of us until the Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon is terminated. We will not discuss issues related to the environment, water, or economic and noneconomic agreements. Does one place the cart before the horse or the other way around? All brothers, and all countries, are free to go to the multilaterals. You have the right. I had wished for Arab solidarity on this issue so that the land would be evacuated by the occupiers. I extend my hand to all in peace. However, we will not accept discussing issues related to water, environment, economy, and cooperation while the enemy still occupies the land.

This is the right of a people whose territory continues to be occupied and shelled daily. There are occupied Arab territories Israel does not dare to attack. The Israelis are benefiting from the fact that we are a weak body in the Arab world and because our economic situation is difficult.

They are expelling our sons in the south, and Lebanon cannot sustain further difficulties and economic hardships. Hence, the Arabs should move quickly. I am aware of the gravity of what is happening. How can you link our refusal to go to the multilaterals with extending aid to us?

If this is the issue, then this means that there must be pressure. Let me say this frankly. This means that pressure is being brought to bear on the brothers not to help Lebanon. My territory is occupied; I am the one in pain; and my people are suffering. Our hands are in the fire while others have placed their hands in cold water. They ask us why we are not participating in the multilaterals. Is it logical to participate while my territory is occupied? No, I will not go while the occupation continues.

[Sultan] Lebanon is awaiting the developments of next September. Perhaps among these developments will be the legislative elections and the redeployment of Syrian forces. Does the Lebanese state now possess the capability to safeguard its own security?

[Al-Hirawi] We have what is needed in terms of human potential, but we lack the material requirements for this task. We are ready to sacrifice all our soldiers so that our army will be deployed throughout all of Lebanon. We currently have 8,000 soldiers in southern Lebanon with what military hardware can be made available to them.

But it is wrong to say that they will not help the Lebanese Army out of fear that weapons will find their way to this or that party.

Are there still any militias? We have implemented all the provisions of the al-Ta'if agreement, but we lacked the political decisionmaking. I said: Let's make a decision. We implemented it, and our Army is now in the south and in every part of the land. But we do not have the hardware. The United States did not lift the siege on us and France did not give us what we wanted, not even spare parts. We have inherited the current state of affairs from what was carried out by Michel 'Awn, who possessed good potential which he used to liberate Lebanon from its inhabitants.

Where is the Lebanese citizen these days? He is in Canada, the United States, and Australia. They were forced to emigrate. 'Awn waged a new war. He destroyed the institutions. We had 41 helicopters that he destroyed during the fighting. We called on the brothers to help the Lebanese Army because we wanted to implement the al-Ta'if agreement to ensure that we will not again have to call on other armies to help us—something which is not permissible in an independent state.

When it was invaded, Kuwait sent out a call for assistance and everyone responded to this call. If we had an army at the time, we would have responded to this call just as other Arab states did. But how can I respond when I do not have a gun? Currently, I have many men in the public security forces. We do not have a gun for each one of them. The patrolmen wait for their colleagues to return in order to take their weapons.

I say this with pain so that my Arab brothers will know.

Paper Reports on U.S. 'Secret Operation'

NC0206075592 Beirut AL-DIYAR in Arabic
27 May 92 p 1, 9

[Report by Charles Bakhus al-Farghali from Paris]

[Text] In the past few weeks, the United States has undertaken a wide-scale secret operation designed to convince West European and some Middle Eastern states about an extremely important issue. It is seeking advance support for U.S. military operations against certain Arab targets or locations, all of which will be specified by Washington at the "appropriate time". This plan will take place within the framework of the U.S. war on terrorism and terrorists and the states and parties which support terrorist activity.

AL-DIYAR has received information from well-informed West European sources which reveal the details of this stunning, recent, major, secret operation the U.S. Administration has undertaken about which nothing has been published until now.

According to our information, a secret meeting of U.S. and European terrorism experts was held in a West European capital in the beginning of May to discuss various aspects of this plan. The U.S. Administration focused its efforts on Egyptian and Israeli officials in an attempt to sell them on the plan.

In their contacts, the U.S. officials explained why they want advance approval from their friends and allies for the "military option," emphasizing that "terrorist operations" take place in Europe more than in the United States and that they are designed to "destabilize" the moderate regimes and undermine Arab-U.S. relations.

The U.S. officials tried to "convince" the parties that the war on terrorism is not only a U.S. war, saying that it is basically an American-European war, the main theater of operations of which is the Middle East.

According to our sources, President Bush approved the plan, which was the result of lengthy discussions inside the U.S. Administration since the start of the blockade on Libya. The discussions were based on two main trends:

1. The first trend, led by Defense Secretary Richard Cheney, who fully supports this military option regardless of the consequences and repercussions, is that the use of force and secret operations is necessary against the states, parties, and individuals Washington believes support "terrorist activities."

2. The second trend is led by U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, who supported the military option with a few reservations the most important of which is that military operations should not be carried out indiscriminately because innocent people may die. Baker also called for exact data on targets and for taking the sensitivities of some states and Washington's Arab relations in consideration when dealing with the phenomenon of terrorism. Baker also maintained that the United States must not carry out military operations which could damage Arab-U.S. relations and cause some Middle Eastern countries to review their positive attitude toward Washington.

As a result of these discussions, President Bush decided to support the first trend with a touch of Baker's ideas, promoting the idea of holding contacts with the friendly and allied states to secure advance support. At the same time, the U.S. President gave instructions to CIA Director Robert Gates to prepare plans for "secret operations" which U.S. intelligence could carry out against "parties" Washington believes support terrorism.

What was the reaction of the countries contacted by the Bush administration?

According to information received by AL-DIYAR from West European sources, the reaction was as follows:

1. The European countries refused to give an advance "green light" for U.S. military operations, counseling the U.S. Administration to give up the military option as the main element of its Middle East policy. A number of European officials said they were concerned that the U.S. policy may lead to a major crisis in U.S.-Arab relations and encourage radical forces in the Middle East.

2. In addition, the European countries turned down a proposal by U.S. President special envoy John Whitehead calling for convening a Western conference to discuss terrorism and to take joint action against it. Whitehead proposed convening the conference with EC, U.S., and Canadian support. Some Middle East nations, such as Israel, were also going to be invited. The goal of the conference would be to establish a unified U.S.-European front against terrorism and parties that support it. European officials with whom Whitehead met, however, informed him that they prefer discussing the terrorism issue within the EC framework and in the UN Security Council, not in the context of the special conference Washington is calling. Such a conference, they added, could have negative repercussions on relations with a number of Arab countries which believe that Israel is the main source of terrorism. They claim that the Bush administration is not making real and sufficient efforts to achieve a just and permanent regional peace because it is not pressuring Israel to respond to the peace proposals or to implement the UN resolutions, the bases of which President Bush declared his peaceful initiative on the Middle East.

3. The Israeli Government notified Washington that it supports the plan and is willing to participate. Egypt did not give a decisive or final response. It seemed to support any international effort to combat terrorism, but seemed apprehensive about the repercussions of supporting a U.S. military option or getting involved in it at all. This

Egyptian dithering prompted President Bush to send a special envoy to Cairo to discuss this issue with Egyptian officials. Did the European rejection make President Bush's administration forget the plan?

There is nothing to indicate this. On the contrary, it seems that the Bush administration is determined to use its military might in dealing with terrorism regardless of the consequences. Arab League Secretary General Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid made a European tour, including a stop in Paris, to discuss the issue. The tour was undertaken in particular to discuss a way to end the Lockerbie crisis peacefully and to brief the European officials on the Arab position on the U.S. plans. He also discussed the war being launched by the United States against certain Arab countries on the pretext of "stopping terrorism" and on the U.S. Administration's plan to carry out a military strike against Libya.

Well-informed Western sources informed AL-DIYAR about the content of Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid's talks, which focused on the following main points:

1. 'Abd-al-Majid demanded that the economic sanctions imposed on Iraq be reduced because the Iraqi people are suffering. He said that Baghdad has accepted and is implementing all the UN Security Council resolutions passed after the Gulf war and that he can confirm that all the Arab countries have adopted a totally clear position on the need to alleviate the Iraqi people's suffering.

2. The Arab League secretary general praised Libya's position on the Lockerbie crisis and its agreement to implement Resolution 731. 'Abd-al-Majid said that now that Libya has accepted this, he hoped that all the parties concerned will refrain from escalating the situation, which he said would not serve anyone's interests.

3. The Arab countries desire to strengthen and develop relations of friendship and cooperation with the West European countries. If, however, these countries responded favorably to U.S. pressure to take part in a military solution, the Arab countries would stand by and support Libya, leading to a crisis in Arab-European relations.

4. Arab states are concerned that certain European countries tend to associate terrorism with Arabs and view every Arab as a terrorist until proven otherwise. This is a true injustice to Arabs, since the entire Arab region has paid, and still is paying, the heaviest prices for Israeli and other terrorist practices.

Informed West European sources have told AL-DIYAR that the EC reaction can be summed up as follows:

1. It was clear in the EC response to 'Abd-al-Majid that these countries are perfectly aware of the importance of their relations with the Arab world and the individuality of the European role in the Middle East. It was clear also that the EC is reluctant to get involved in a conflict between the United States and an Arab state or states. This was evident in Paris' stand not to support Washington's plan to deal a military blow to Libya, although France insists on Libya's compliance with the UN Security Council resolutions in connection with the Lockerbie incident;

2. Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid felt that European countries are aware of the implications of a spontaneous Arab solidarity in case "some war" breaks out between Libya and the United States. These states are also aware that adopting an extremist stand on Libya or on the terrorism issue in general without searching for the roots of that terrorism merely to oblige Washington is bound to encourage more violence and terrorism in Europe and the Middle East; and,

3. Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid also noted that there is an understanding among European decisionmakers that indifference on the Middle East, its conflicts, and problems is bound to increase violence, shake stability, and make Western countries vulnerable to many hazards. Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid paused at this point and emphasized the need to treat the underlying causes of violence and terrorism, noting that the EC should not shun its responsibility, but should persuade the United States to make real efforts to bring about a just and lasting peace in the Middle East region, based on securing the lawful rights of the Palestinian people, particularly their right to self-determination.

According to AL-DIYAR's sources, the United States has not yet excluded the "military option" against Libya, at least for the time being, even though the idea was shot down in Europe. It should be noted that the United States is in the throes of presidential elections, with all the accompanying comments U.S. candidates make against terrorism—terrorism which, for the American public, only exists in the Middle East. The United States recently embarked on military maneuvers off the Italian coast, close to Libyan regional waters to provoke the Libyans, drag them into a military confrontation, and eventually pave the way for military strikes against certain targets and positions on the Libyan territories.

It is no coincidence that Israel was the only state to give full support for the American "military option".

Al-Asad Receives Bahraini Information Minister

JN0406165992 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1515 GMT 4 Jun 92

[Excerpt] At 1400 today, His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad met with Bahraini Information Minister Tariq 'Abd-al-Rahman al-Mu'ayyad. The meeting was attended by Information Minister Muhammad Salman and Bahrain's ambassador in Damascus.

At 1200 today, the Bahraini minister and his delegation met with Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam, with Information Minister Muhammad Salman and Bahrain's ambassador in attendance. They talked about Lebanon, Arab developments, and the Arab-Israeli conflict. [passage omitted]

Relations Termed 'Strong'

JN0506153092 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1430 GMT 5 Jun 92

[Excerpt] Manama, 5 Jun (WAKH)—Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad paid tribute to the ties existing between the State of Bahrain and Syria. He also praised the ties of affection and amity binding him to Bahraini Amir His Highness Shaykh 'Isa Bin-Salman Al Khalifah.

In remarks made during a reception for the media team that accompanied Bahraini Information Minister Tariq 'Abd-al-Rahman al-Mu'ayyad during his official visit to Syria, the Syrian president termed these ties strong and special and hoped that they would be further enhanced and strengthened, particularly during this period of the Arab nation.

President al-Asad urged the Arab nation to unify its positions and close ranks so that it may restore its prestige, proper standing, and leading role. He added that what the Arab nation needs at this point, when it is crossing a serious junction, is a unified position by adopting a unified strategy that puts the nation's interests before everything else.

President Hafiz al-Asad also said that fidelity and farsightedness must permeate inter-Arab ties.

Regarding the explosive situation and the recent Israeli escalation in southern Lebanon, President al-Asad said that Israeli ambitions are not confined to Syria and Lebanon. Indeed, he noted, these ambitions covet the Arab homeland. The territories extending from the Nile to the Euphrates constitute the minimum that could satisfy Israeli ambitions, he maintained. We must not ignore the facts regarding these Israeli ambitions, he said.

President al-Asad added that Syria extends its hand to all parties, be they fraternal or friendly countries. But he noted that small as well as big parties in the Arab homeland must shoulder the responsibility. At the same time, he said that views must be expressed frankly.

Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad described the Damascus Declaration as a milestone in the Arab march that rejects aggression. In addition, this declaration provides a formula for cooperation among Arab states. He added that this declaration is an approach around which the Arabs should rally. It should be open for all Arab states to have a tangible impact.

President al-Asad said that the outcome of the Gulf crisis is that the Arabs emerged as losers, and that this crisis must not prevent us from seeing future dangers at a time when the world seeks to achieve its interests and objectives.

The Syrian president spoke about peace negotiations between the Arab states and Israel. He said: Syria agreed to join these negotiations and accepted the U.S. peace initiative based on the fact that the principles included in this initiative are the same principles which we call for; namely, the realization of a just and comprehensive solution, and the principle of land for peace based on UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. [passage omitted]

Minister Departs 4 Jun

JN0406185192 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1815 GMT 4 Jun 92

[Excerpt] Bahrain's information minister, Tariq 'Abd-al-Rahman al-Mu'ayyad, left Damascus today, ending a three-day visit to Syria. On hand to bid him farewell at Damascus International Airport were Information Minister Muhammad Salman and his assistant; the Journalists Union president; directors general of press establishments; top ministry officials; and the Bahraini ambassador in Damascus and his staff. [passage omitted]

Lebanon's al-Sulh Meets With al-Asad

JN0606140792 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1115 GMT 6 Jun 92

[Excerpt] At 1330 today, His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad met with Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid al-Sulh. Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam and Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi attended. [passage omitted]

Meets Khaddam, Departs

JN0606193292 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1815 GMT 6 Jun 92

[Excerpts] At 1030 today, Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam met with Lebanon's Prime Minister Rashid al-Sulh, with Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi attending. Disucssions centered on Lebanon, particulary in the south, and ties between both brotherly countries.

Al-Sulh left Damascus at 1700 today, ending a brief visit to the Syrian Arab Republic. [passage omitted]

In a predeparture statement to SANA, al-Sulh said: We are anxious to have more and more get-togethers

between the peoples of Syria and Lebanon in the interest of pan-Arab issues. The present Lebanese Government—which I am proud to head—is keen to boost the distinguished Syrian-Lebanese ties. Lebanon has endured Isreali siege and aggressions. Only Syria, upon instructions from His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad, has rallied to the support of our people in the south. Today, I visited his excellency the president, the vice president, and the prime minister, and had extremely useful discussions. I thank them all for their hospitality. I am also grateful for the noble, sympathetic feelings they have for Lebanon and its people. I was also impressed by their attention to all pan-Arab issues that bind both countries together and are of interest to the entire Arab nation. [passage omitted]

Al-Asad Meets Lebanese Chamber Speaker

JN0506063392 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0415 GMT 5 Jun 92

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad met with Husayn al-Husayni, speaker of the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies, at 1830 yesterday. Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam attended.

The conversation revolved around the clashes that have been going on in southern Lebanon for the last two weeks.

President Meets With Cypriot Interior Minister

JN0406163992 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1515 GMT 4 Jun

[Excerpts] His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad met with Cypriot Interior Minister Khristodoulos Veniamin at noon today. The meeting was attended by Interior Minister Dr. Muhammad Harbah. Discussions focused on bilateral relations.

The Cypriot minister left Damascus this afternoon, ending a four-day visit to Syria. [passage omitted]

In a predeparture statement to SANA, Veniamin said he was glad to have met with His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad. He added: I was honored today by meeting with His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad, who showed deep interest in all that is occurring in the region, particularly in Cyprus, which is a friend to Syria. The Cypriot minister added: His excellency and I exchanged views on all issues of interest to our two countries. Veniamin said he held his excellency the president in high regard, calling him an outstanding Arab leader and a friend of Cyprus.

The Cypriot interior minister said that during his visit to Syria, he signed a protocol about cooperation between the interior ministries of both countries to combat crime and drugs. The protocol also provides for an exchange of expertise, intelligence, and visits so that the police forces from both friendly countries can become familiar with each other's procedures.

Meanwhile, Interior Minister Muhammad Harbah made a statement in which he said: Over the past three days, the Cypriot interior minister and ourselves conferred about issues of interest to our ministries and countries. He added: In 1991, we signed in Cyprus a joint agreement to fight crime in general and narcotics in particular. On that occasion, we formulated a plan of action to fight drugs in the two countries in particular and to wage a joint battle against this social evil, which is harmful to the entire region. [passage omitted]

U.S. Official Cited on Mideast Peace Process

JN0506200592 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in arabic 1530 GMT 5 Jun 92

[Palestine broadcast: From the "International Stands" feature]

[Text] Expressions of support for Middle East peace continue to be heard around the world. The United States has renewed its commitment to the Middle East peace process. Edward Djerejian—assistant U.S. secretary of state for Near Eastern affairs—stated that the cold war need not give way to conflict between the West and Islam, emphasizing that Islam poses no threat to world peace. Radio Monte Carlo quotes Djerejian in a speech he delivered at the International Meridian Center in Washington as saying that the cold war will not be replaced by a new rivarly between Islam and the West, because the Crusades ended long ago and the United States views Islam as a historical source of civilization. Djerejian stated that his country does not seek to impose a certain political model about Middle Eastern states. Djerejian, meanwhile, reiterated the U.S. Administration's commitment to the Middle East peace process.

Daily Stresses Need To Confront Israel

JN0506071292 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0445 GMT 5 Jun 92

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Arabs Have To Take a Stand," AL- BA'TH says: The search for peace in the Middle East has been going on for a long time, and many peace plans and initiatives for the region have been launched. But when the opportunity arrived, the states that blamed the Arabs for the absence of peace ignored the clear facts confirming that it is Israel that rejects peace and aborts all opportunities to achieve it.

AL-BA'TH adds: Based on their experience of war—which is imposed on them—and of peace—to which they have always adhered—the Arabs are the most capable of passing judgments, explaining positions, and differentiating between the roles of the false and true advocates [of peace].

The paper explains that the peace desired by Israel, in accordance with its own terms, ignores the most basic Arab rights.

The paper says: Thus, President al-Asad stressed the importance of Arab solidarity and the need to create an Arab climate that befits the requirements needed to defend the Arab future and destiny.

The paper concludes by noting: The pan-Arab duty dictates that the sons of this nation should rise up to a level of responsibility to confront Israel, which seeks to strike at the Arab's unity, culture, and history.

Commentary Says Arab Relations 'On the Mend'

JN0406161092 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1130 GMT 4 Jun 92

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: The Arabs are all too aware that they are in bad shape and that the present level of Arab solidarity falls far short of expectations. But we have yet to find the cure for troubled intra-Arab relations that might reassure us about our well-being. But there are heartwarming bright spots here and there indicating that Arab relations are on the mend. This leads us to believe that our future need not be a reflection of our irregular present. In other words, Arab division and differences need not indefinitely haunt and bedevil common Arab action.

Perhaps the developing relations between Damascus and Cairo is one the bright spot that leads us to believe that the role of Egypt and Syria in putting Arab relations back on track should carry the Arab nation forward to a brighter future. Just as it proved beneficial to overall pan-Arab interests when Egypt and Syria came together in the past, this time around it will also prove similarly worthwhile, even under the most adverse circumstances. The latest summit between Presidents al-Asad and Mubarak did not address any problems between Syria and Egypt, simply because there are no such problems. Rather, they met to examine pan-Arab concerns with a high sense of responsibility demonstrating that Damascus and Cairo are the Arab players best qualified to assume responsibility for pulling the Arabs out of their divisions and quarrels. Syria and Egypt are the Arab countries best suited to tackle whatever stands in the way of Arab advancement and success.

Just as wars between the Arabs and their traditional enemies have brought Syria and Egypt together over the centuries, the cause of peace requires that Syria and Egypt be in the same camp to lead the Arabs to dignity and victory. The 1973 October war of liberation marked the high point of cooperation between Syria and Egypt, as did their [1958-1961] union that won massive Arab support. In these two momentous events shaped by a coming together of Syrian and Egyptian resolve, Arab solidarity was never greater.

With the Arab nation currently groping its way out of the tunnel into which it has been driven by the conspiracies hatched by its enemies, no Arab can ignore or underestimate the potential dividends of common action between Damascus and Cairo as they reconfirm facts of history. Both countries were tested in the past and have shown that they know what it takes to achieve victory.

Daily Views Amman Talks as 'Pan-Arab Foundation'

JN0806080192 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0445 GMT 8 Jun 92

[From the press review]

[Text] TISHRIN stresses the need for Arab coordination and consultations to reach a unified Arab position. The paper notes that solidarity is a pan-Arab need and an urgent and pressing duty. It is especially so, because the developments of the peace process—which continues to revolve in a vicious circle due to Israel's rejection of the principles and requirements of peace—revealed that the Shamir government's maneuvers and tricks not only seek to torpedo the peace process but also to single out Arab delegations to the bilateral negotiations and reach separate solutions, whether by temptation or intimidation.

TISHRIN continues: Hence, the Arab foreign ministers' meeting in Amman was a real pan-Arab foundation. On the basis of this meeting and in light of its deliberations and decisions, the Arab delegations to the peace talks will unify their positions and coordinate their moves and efforts to expose the Israeli maneuvers and deceptive methods.

TISHRIN adds: It seems that Israel, which mostly fears Arab cooperation, solidarity, and unity, is now indulging in disturbing the Arab atmosphere and fishing in murky waters. It is also indulging in exploiting the deteriorating Arab situation to serve its objectives of maintaining control over occupied territories and swallowing up more Arab territories.

TISHRIN adds: As we look forward to a unified Arab position, the clear fact is the need to support building a truly unified Arab position to deal with the Israeli attacks and barbaric bombardment to which southern Lebanese villages, cities, and sons are being subjected. Moreover, a unified Arab position would primarily block the way before the Zionist enemy and its attempts to exploit the multilateral talks without promising or expressing any good intentions toward the peace process, or responding to international legitimacy resolutions. Rather, the enemy has deliberately worked to destroy and torpedo the principles of peace. At the same time, the enemy insists on economic cooperation with the Arabs without giving anything in return.

Dailies View Israeli 'Aggression,' Policy

JN0906082292 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0445 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Press Review]

[Text] Under the headline Arabs Faced With an Inevitable Choice, the newspaper AL-BA'TH says: Zionist calculations seek to gain maximum benefit from the looseness that is marking the world in the new American era. Zionism has found that its interests are served by the creation of various and disturbing regional and continental hotbeds of tension to conceal the scheme it wants to carry out. This is happening at a time when the Arabs lack the minimum of solidarity and integration required. All indicators show that peace is a long way off and that Israel is determined to kill the peace opportunities and replace them with aggression and occupation.

AL-BA'TH adds: Talk of peace remains useless as long as Security Council resolutions are enforced in some circumstances and rejected in others and also as long as Israel is capable of dictating its policies on countries that are supposed to be cosponsors of the peace talks.

AL-BA'TH adds: Because the Arabs are the only victims of the Israeli aggression, and due to this intentional exaggeration of the Israeli role, the truth must be told so that the Arabs may be aware of it and so that they may not remain hostages to deception for long.

The paper affirms that the isolationists will not be spared the danger of the isolationism plaguing the Arab state of affairs. This is because, the paper notes, the Arab homeland is a single body regardless of the justifications and deceptive rationale that might be advanced by the advocates of parochialism to lend credence to their argument.

The paper adds: The times we are living are the times of the strong. As far as we Arabs are concerned, we have the components of strength that could render us the strongest in this disturbed part of the world.

Concluding its commentary, AL-BA'TH says: This does not mean that we shun peace. We, as struggler Hafiz al-Asad has affirmed, are maintaining our engagement in peace efforts. However, we do not accept to see peace turned into capitulation, in which we could lose our right to restore our usurped Arab lands.

Under the headline The Required Deterrence, the newspaper AL-THAWRAH says in one of its commentaries: Intransigence and aggressiveness are the only features of Israel's policy and positions with regard to the peace process and its requirements, the aim of which is the attainment of a just and comprehensive peace based on implementation of international legitimacy resolutions, which call for complete withdrawal from all occupied territories, including southern Lebanon.

The paper adds: Israel's aggressive course poses serious threats to the regional situation and to the peace process. Unless Israel is deterred by the United Nations and the highly influential and powerful world states, particularly the United States, Israel's recklessness, rashness, arrogance, and false pride will cause the peace process to fail abysmally. Furthermore, this would lead the region to a dangerously explosive situation. There is much that the United Nations in general, and the United States in particular can do to deter Israel. They have the tools that can make Israel understand that the implementation of all international resolutions is the only way to achieve peace, and that neither Israel nor any other party can be allowed to undermine the credibility of international legitimacy.

Under the headline The Exception and the Law of the Jungle, the newspaper TISHRIN says: For our part, we would like to pose the following questions to the advocates of freedom and human rights, and those combating terrorism: Why have they closed their eyes to the heinous crimes being committed by the Israeli occupiers against millions of Arabs in the occupied territories? Why was total silence, like the silence of the grave, maintained in the halls of the Security Council when Israeli warplanes raided civilian areas in Lebanon, destroyed scores of houses, and displaced hundreds of thousands of people there? Why have the advocates of free media chosen to ignore the total siege imposed by the occupation troops on approximately 1 million Arabs in the Gaza Strip and southern Lebanon?

TISHRIN says: Exempting Zionists from compliance with the international legitimacy resolutions is tantamount to indirect support for all the world's outlaws. If this state of affairs is allowed to continue, then the law of the jungle will prevail, and the world will return to the times of all-out wars, repression, bombardment, destruction, and catastrophes. Moves to punish the Zionists and deter them would basically represent an effort to vindicate justice, freedom, and peace.

Regional Ba'th Party Said To Assail al-Asad

JN0406165592 Baghdad INA in English 1610 GMT 4 Jun 92

[Text] Damascus, June 4, INA—The regional leadership of the Arab Ba'th Socialist Party in Syria strongly attacked head of the Syrian regime on occasion of the Zionist aggression in June 1967.

A party statement issued here today said ruler of Syria Hafiz al-Asad had not only closed borders with Iraq and collaborated in the plot of starving the Iraqi people, he continues meddling in dragging Palestine and the Arab nation to the compromise table with the Zionist entity under the auspices of the American Administration.

The statement also charged the ruler of Syria with giving access to more than 2,000 Syrian Jews to emigrate to occupied Palestine and responding to the demands of the Zionists and Americans which are hostile to the Arab nation aspirations.

The statement called for toppling the treacherous Arab regimes that had taken part in the thirty states aggression on Iraq.

Writer Criticizes Ceilings for Salaries, Wages

JN0406195692 Damascus AL-THAWRAH in Arabic
31 May 92 p 8

["People's Talk" column by As'ad 'Abbud: "A Real Ceiling...And A Fake One"]

[Text] It is really ironic that those who supervise our affairs show a lot of concern about our rights but rarely think of really doing us justice. The "our" I am speaking about refers to those of us who work for the state, and who are governed by its financial rules and regulations. They see with their own eyes and feel that the monthly salaries paid to us are not enough, not even for half a month. They are very idle when they think about our situation or try and find an outlet or solution to a situation that is getting more and more complicated. But when it comes to thinking about ceilings for salaries, wages, and compensation, it is impossible for them to be idle. In fact, they spend most of their time trying to fix a ceiling for anything that does not have one. Once these ceilings are established, it is difficult and bitter to remove them. If establishing these ceilings was delayed, they would seek fake ones, since it is allowable to use another ceiling when cases in point are similar and as long as our heritage contains uncountable decisions, notices, announcements, and enough material to justify an issue and its opposite at the same time. They would not fail to come up with a fake ceiling.

This current view of ceilings, based as it is on its own logic, is an old, miserable view that lacks, with its justification, any attempts to activate the mind or thought. We must modernize how this issue is thought about and work in accordance with it.

First of all, we can say that a ceiling for wages and another for compensation, as well as a ceiling for incentives also means a ceiling for production. This is because these ceilings result in inaction and paralyze the body and soul. Is it reasonable to see, in a state seeking modernization and working to promote development and production, a worker or employee hitting the ceiling while he is still 40?

The ceiling for salaries was worked out in the past in accordance with acceptable calculations and based on a state worker not reaching this ceiling before the age of retirement or thereabouts. Given all the developments and amendments to wage and compensation laws, in addition to various interpretations and dereliction of duty, it is possible for many to reach the salary ceiling while they are in their prime. So why do we accuse them of inability and ask them to retire?

Even if a law or the interpretation of a law or notice—and just for your information, we often make the interpretation, the decision, or the notice more important than the law itself—one day fixes a real or fake ceiling for wages or compensation, does this mean that this text is immortal, notwithstanding the fact that it hurts workers?

A view was once born in the state that holds that there is a great contradiction between its interests and the wages and compensation of those who work for it. Thus, it has sought, through its laws and decisions, to protect its interests. But the state, as it currently exists and considering that it is a legal person, is undertaking major development and investment tasks and has an interest in removing ceilings for the sake of free, mobile wages because this means free, mobile production that has no ceiling. Otherwise, beware of competition.

Afghanistan

Kabul Committee Cease-Fire, Security Statement

LD0806170492 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Announcement by the Kabul City Peace Committee—read by announcer]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted including Koranic verses] The Kabul City Peace Committee reports to the religious and noble nation and the Islamic warriors:

1. As a result of continuous efforts by Jehadi commanders, a full cease-fire has been established in all areas of Kabul city.

2. As a result of efforts by the Jehadi commanders, a large number of prisoners from the involved sides has been released, responsible measures have been taken to ensure general security, and serious efforts continue to release all the prisoners.

3. The Peace Committee assures the hero nation and the honest mojahedin that all the people's property and private and jehadi vehicles which have been (?taken away) will soon be returned to them.

4. As the motivated hands have been extended to cause tension and general disturbances, we request from all honorable jehadi commanders, officials of the bases, and the esteemed mojahedin of Islam to take responsible measures to ensure Kabul City citizens' security.

5. The roads are open to all people, whether armed or not, and no one has the right to cause any inconvenience.

6. Peace Committee members will meet every day in Rahman Baba Lycee; therefore, all those who want to complain should report there.

India

By-Election Polling Said 'Moderate to Heavy'

BK0806162392 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Moderate to heavy polling is reported in today's by-elections to two Lok Sabha and 19 assembly seats spread over nine states and the union territory of Delhi. Polling has been by and large peaceful, barring a few incidents of violence in Bihar, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, and New Delhi.

In West Bengal, the Congress-I and the Bharatiya Janata Party have demanded repolling in the Ballygunge assembly constituency. The leader of the opposition in the state assembly, Mr. Sidhartha Shankar Ray, and the state Youth Congress-I president, Miss Mamata Banerjee, alleged large-scale booth capturing. Similar allegations were made by the Congress-I spokesman in Delhi today. However, the state chief minister, Mr. Jyoti Basu, told newsmen in Calcutta that all these allegations were found baseless on verification. He said the observers did not find anything objectionable during their visit to the constituency. A report says police opened fire in Gurihat area of Ballygunge when some people attacked the police. One person succumbed to his bomb injury. Over 60 percent polling was reported in all the three assembly constituencies in the state.

In New Delhi Lok Sabha constituency, about 45 percent votes were polled. At least 10 persons were injured in clashes between workers of rival political parties at some places. In Andhra Pradesh, polling in the three assembly constituencies of Allagadda, Himayatnagar, and Sanatnagar was marked by stray incidents of violence, including bomb throwing and booth capturing. According to the state police chief, police fired in the air in Allagadda to disperse a violent mob. Polling was suspended in 10 booths. About 50 percent polling has been reported from these constituencies.

More than 55 percent voters exercised their franchise in the Giridih Lok Sabha and three assembly constituencies in Bihar. There was a bomb blast at a polling booth in Vaishali. The state home commissioner, Mr. J.L. Arya, told our Ranchi correspondent that at least 150 persons were arrested in connection with booth capturing and rigging. Two persons were injured in incidents of violence in Vaishali and Danapur. A report says the Janata Dal candidate, Mr. Raj Kishore, was attacked but escaped unhurt in Vaishali constituency.

In Kerala, about 70 percent of the voters exercised their franchise in the Narakkal and about 50 percent in Tanur assembly constituencies. In Karnataka, 50 to 60 percent polling has been reported in three assembly constituencies of Belgaum, Gadag, and Kollegal. In Orissa, 45 percent polling has been reported from Malkangiri assembly seat. Over 50 percent votes were polled in the Tilhar assembly constituency in Uttar Pradesh.

In Madhya Pradesh, about 60 percent voting has been reported in Budhni and 65 percent in Lanji assembly constituencies. Forty percent polling has been reported from the Loutolim assembly seat in Goa. Counting of votes will be taken up tomorrow morning and the results are expected by the evening.

Punjab Militants Breach Rajasthan Canal

BK0806155792 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] In Punjab, the militants breached the Rajasthan Canal near village Doda in Faridkot district last night and disrupted the water supply to Rajasthan. According to an official spokesman in Chandigarh, a group of militants, after forcibly taking the keys from the Irrigation Department personnel, closed the feeder toward Rajasthan and then breached the canal. The spokesman said security along the Bhakra Canal has been strengthened following an attempt to breach it near the village Bheora in Ropar district yesterday.

Gunmen Attack Indian Consul General in Pakistan

BK0806155292 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] In Pakistan, unidentified gunmen attacked the car of Indian Consul General Mr. Dinkar Shrivastava in Karachi yesterday. The gunmen tried to open the door and break the windows with a pistol before Mr. Shrivastava sped to a nearby police station.

Faleiro Cited on Tension With Pakistan

BK0906073292 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English 1600 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] New Delhi has expressed the view that the recent abduction and brutal assault on a senior Indian diplomat in Islamabad has caused an unprecedented in tension between the two countries. The minister of state for external affairs, Mr. Eduardo Faleiro, told the visiting deputy prime minister of New Zealand, Right Honorable Don Mckinnon, that India remains committed to resolve all problems with Pakistan through peaceful dialogue. But Pakistan's support to terrorism and subversion in India has been the principal obstacle in the process. The two leaders discussed several issues of mutual concern—both regional and global—in their talks in New Delhi today. The New Zealand deputy prime minister briefed Mr. Faleiro about his own region and economic cooperation within the Asia-Pcific forum. The two leaders also exchanged views on nuclear disarmament and felt that the time is suitable now to resolve the problem involving all sides.

Iran

Judicial Chief Cited on Mashhad Investigations

LD0806154992 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 1430 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Excerpts] Yazdi, judicial branch chief, attended a meeting of this branch's officials today and thanked the people for their extensive participation in ceremonies marking the third anniversary of the demise of his eminence the imam. [passage omitted]

Referring to recent incidents in Arak, Shiraz, and Mashhad, Yazdi said: Investigations into the files of the accused in Arak and Shiraz have ended; the judges dealt with the issue in accordance with the shari'ah and the law; the sentences against the convicted individuals were carried out; the public prosecutors in these cities were told to brief the people, in an appropriate manner, about the details of the cases and the sentences issued. He added: The files of those who resorted to sabotage, destruction, and arson during the Mashhad disturbances are going through the final stages; investigations into the files will be completed by the end of this week; the convicted individuals will be punished in accordance with the verdict.

While analyzing the factors and the motive behind these offenses and stressing that no one, no matter what their status, is immune from retribution should they commit an offense, the chief of the judicial branch paid tribute to the relevant judges for their speedy, decisive, and legal response and called on all citizens to respect the law and stability of the government. [passage omitted]

Nateq-Nuri Cited on Arab-Israeli Talks, Mashhad

LD0806105192 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Mr. Nateq-Nuri, Islamic Majles speaker, held a news conference today, attended by domestic and foreign reporters. Referring to particular features of the Fourth Majles, Mr. Nateq-Nuri said: Contrary to the false and hasty interpretations of the Westerners, the Fourth Majles deputies will urgently continue the same principles and values, the foundation of which were laid by his eminence the imam [Khomeyni]—may God be satisfied with his deeds. The deputies will urgently support the position of the leader of the revolution [Khamene'i] against the forces of global arrogance and the United States and will support the policy of defending the deprived and the oppressed of Palestine.

Referring to the free elections and the process of forming the Fourth Majles, Mr. Nateq-Nuri said: Thanks to the people's deep understanding of the esteemed leader's instructions, they acted with vigilance and wisdom, which demonstrates their deep and strong link with Islam and the rule of Guardian of the Muslim's Cause. He added: The deputies of the Islamic Majles consider His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i's message about the opening of the Fourth Majles to be their charter and agenda and will implement all articles of this message.

About the Majles vote of confidence for the cabinet, Mr Nateq-Nuri said: After reviewing the Constitution, the article that obliged the cabinet to obtain a vote of confidence from the new Majles was canceled; on the basis of the existing Constitution, there is no longer any need for that task.

Replying to a question raised by the AP correspondent about foreign investment in the country's reconstruction and economic development, the Islamic Majles speaker said: Our overall policy is to strengthen our internal forces, but this issue is not incompatible with the effort to seek foreign investments, the method of which is compiled and specified in the first five-year economic plan in accordance with the Constitution.

Responding to a question raised by a Sudanese correspondent about the talks between the Arabs and the Zionist regime, the Islamic Majles speaker said: We consider any step undertaken by the Westerners under the title of Arab-Israeli peace talks to be a diversion aimed at strengthening the usurping Israel's position. We reject and condemn any talks that would lead to official recognition of the regime occupying Jerusalem. We

believe that the illegitimate child of global arrogance must be kicked out of the occupied territories so that the people of Palestine can return to their homeland.

concerning the Islamic Republic of Iran's position toward the issue of Bosnia-Hercegovina, he said: We believe the federal government is behaving barbarically and is sacrificing the Muslims.

About establishing ties with the countries north of Iran, Mr Nateq-Nuri said: Our ties with the Islamic countries are based on our common religious inheritance and mutual respect, and our relations with the newly independent states north of our country will be the same.

Replying to a question about the need to confront the cultural onslaught of the West, the Islamic Majles speaker said: Not only does this issue require a law but also extensive cultural work should be undertaken in this field. On the whole, the Fourth Majles is dutybound to submit a workable bill—with the Supreme National Security Council's coordination—to confront the West's cultural onslaught.

While stating that the Fourth Majles is not at all different from the previous term in supervising the legislation process, Mr Nateq-Nuri said: The Islamic Majles is in harmony with the government and will employ its legal means in the appropriate manner.

Replying to a question from an AFP reporter about the reasons behind the recent unrest in the cities of Mashhad, Arak, and Shiraz, Mr. Nateq-Nuri said: I believe that the unrest did not, primarily, have political roots but occurred because of natural causes, just like in other countries. What is significant, however, is that some people have been taking advantage of the sympathy and kindness of officials to engage in illegal construction activities. When offenders are confronted legally, disputes naturally occur, and some opportunists interfere in the clashes to turn them into public disturbances.

The Majles speaker said: The issue does not have political roots in which political groups could be involved. We believe that the opposition grouplets do not have any popular base and are incapable of doing anything; they are detested in our society. Mr Nateq-Nuri asked the judiciary, executive organs, and law enforcement forces to deal decisively with the offenders and asserts that Islamic mercy should not be applied in their cases.

The Majles speaker assessed as positive the return of specialist Iranian people to the country and added: The nation is ready to embrace the return and the services of Iranian specialists living abroad, but they, too, should know that they are returning to an Islamic society. They must observe ethical and cultural rules and abide by the principles of the revolution. They must adjust themselves to the values of the Islamic revolution.

He stressed the need to control prices and to implement suitable plans to control and harness inflation, saying: We believe that, as the country flourishes and moves toward development, some inflation is inevitable. God willing, through economic adjustment, greater control will be exercised over inflation and prices.

He expressed gratitude to the deputies of the Third Term of the Majles, especially to Mr. Karrubi, the speaker of the Third Majles, for his efforts.

Rules Out U.S. Investment

LD0806140592 Tehran IRNA in English 1143 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Excerpts] Tehran, June 8, IRNA—Majles speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali 'Akbar Nateq-Nuri here Monday termed the West's analyses on the outcome of the recently held parliamentary elections in Iran as being "hasty and wrong."

Speaking at a news conference, Nateq-Nuri expressed hope that the 4th Majles, as in its previous terms, would remain committed to the values founded by the late founder of the Islamic republic, the late Imam Khomeyni. [passage omitted]

Replying to a question on the likelihood of U.S. investments in Iran, the Majles speaker said "such a possibility does not exist in Iran at all with regards to the attitudes of the people and the leader of the revolution towards the U.S."

He also ruled out the possibility of a change in Iran's foreign diplomacy due to the election of new deputies to the Majles, saying that the foreign diplomacy of the country is designed by the Supreme National Security Council and implemented upon the approval of the leader. Thus, he added, the Majles has no role in this regard.

Questioned about Iran's viewpoint on the Middle East peace talks, Nateq-Nuri answered that any move by the West towards Arab-Israeli peace is aimed at keeping the Muslims and Arabs busy. "Iran will in no way accept any talks that may result in the recognition of Israel," he made it clear.

On a possible enhancement of Tehran-Cairo diplomatic relations, the Majles speaker said "this issue concerns the leadership and the Supreme National Security Council...the Majles will undoubtedly confirm any decision taken by them."

He termed as "untrue" allegations that Iran was trying to infiltrate the newly independent republics of the former Soviet Union and said Iran's relations with her northern neighbors were based on good-neighborliness.

Criticizing violent treatment of Muslims in India and in Kashmir in particular, he made it clear that the Islamic Republic will defend the rights of Indian Muslims at any opportunity.

On the possibility of a common Islamic market being established, the speaker said that if the member states of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) become

powerful to a desirable extent it would be quite likely for a common Islamic market to be set up.

Armed Forces Helicopters Attack Kurdish Positions

LD0606222192 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 1430 GMT 6 Jun 92

[Text] Kurdish positions in the Nojol region of northern Iraq were shelled at first light this morning by Iraqi Armed Forces helicopters. Kurdish sources opposing the Iraqi regime report that the attack caused a lot of damage.

Velayati on Lebanese Resistance, Self-Determination

NC0906093092 Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 3 Jun 92 p 1, 11

[Report on interview with Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati in Beirut on 2 June]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] We broached the issue of the ongoing debate about the resistance, its usefulness and effectiveness, the claims that it only brings harm to Lebanon (particularly to the Lebanese in the south), and whether this debate could further advance the secessionist trends in a country being destroyed by sectarianism.

'Ali Akbar Velayati said: It is the absolute right of the people and government in Lebanon to decide about resistance, self-determination, and liberation of the occupied territories. This is their own affair. We do not permit ourselves to decide in their name or on their behalf. If the Lebanese people and Government decide to defend themselves from Israel and its aggression, then they must naturally confront immense difficulties and problems.

As for us, we are never happy when Israel shells areas in Lebanon, kills our brothers there, destroys their houses, and damages their livelihood. On the contrary, we are worried about those who are losing their lands and relatives and facing these dangers.

A slight smile appeared on the face of the Iranian minister with his dark beard, hair, and black clothes. He added: Israel shells and bombards whenever it wants. Those capable of stopping it come to Lebanon and advise it to exercise self-restraint instead of doing what they must do to deter it. We do not hope or expect the Americans to exert pressure on Israel to stop killing peaceful people, but it is our right to take note of it. On the other hand, the "peace talks" have not led to any result as far as the Arab countries are concerned. There is no sign that Israel has, for example, changed its former stands in any way. Therefore, Israel is striking and the West does not object or exert pressure on it to implement Security Council Resolutions 425, 242, 338, and all the other UN resolutions.

What hope remains for Lebanon? What hope is there except the resistance?

The dangers you pointed out are worthy of attention, but we think in a different way. Israel will continue its occupation of some of Lebanon's territories and will continue its expansionist policy without the need for excuses, such as the resistance or anything else.

It is our right to ask: If an enemy, any enemy, violates the territory and rights of any people, then should these people not do all that is needed to stand fast and resist?

Yet I reiterate that it is Lebanon's business to decide whether to resist or not.

We moved forward to discuss the repercussions of the resistance activity, within the context of the current political circumstances and at the domestic, Arab, Islamic, and international levels, noting that Lebanon has too much to endure alone; it is beyond its power and the others should relieve it because they owe it to Lebanon, as Iranian President Hashemi-Rafsanjani said a few days ago.

Dr. Velayati's comment was: The objective of the resistance is not random and it should not be uncalculated. On the contrary, and like any revolutionary action, resistance must be thoroughly calculated, and this relates to tactics. It is necessary for the resistance to pursue successful tactics that take into consideration the existing circumstances of time and place, the nature of the struggle, and the powers involved in it. All this should not turn into excuses for refraining from, abandoning, or denouncing resistance. You have heard, as we did, some time ago some sorts of talk and have witnessed some sorts of actions and practices that we believe do not serve the causes of the peoples. We must not confuse those who caution against risks and the need to prepare well for the resistance and those who talk too much about its form and point out faults and casualties as an excuse to demand a halt to the resistance.

Where does Iran stand on all this, particularly since there are some people who wish to portray the resistance as if it were "Iranian" in inclination and orientation to some degree or another?

The man, who understands and speaks Arabic well but prefers to speak in Persian, remained calm. He answered calmly: It is not in Iran's interest to be a party to Lebanon's internal affairs, and it does not wish to play this role. But what do the others say and do?

We absolutely do not contemplate or wish to take the place of the Lebanese or to speak in their name or on their behalf. Whatever we say and do reflects or is motivated by the common interests and the good relations linking our two peoples. Our debate here is in its entirety theoretical and ideological. As for Lebanon's internal affairs, it is none of our business. God forbid that we try to dictate our will on anybody in or outside Lebanon. The only thing is that I am putting forward my viewpoint as a political official in my country regarding issues that concern friendly states whose pains and concerns we share.

We raised the issue of the south in light of the Palestinian resistance, its bitter suffering, and the harsh results. The Iranian foreign minister answered with complete frankness:

I am afraid that the objective of argument about the role of the resistance is to terminate the resistance on the pretext: What would happen if there were no resistance? At least the populace will be happy.

In our assessment and according to realities, Israel continues to pursue its policy, which it will never change unless forced to do so. Israel has occupied 12 percent of Lebanon's best areas. Israel has covetous designs over some Lebanese rivers, and this means it will not be content with the land it has occupied. Therefore, what remains according to our understanding and reading of the Palestinian experiment is one option: Either to resist or to surrender and abstain from resisting.

Our reading has proven that pinning hope on "the peace conference" or on a change within the Israeli Government is a sort of illusion and raises false hopes. Let's suppose that the other party wins the Knesset elections and assumes power. Does this mean Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon and the rest of the territories? This same party ruled for many years and did not withdraw its troops armies from the occupied territories.

There are people who say: Let's continue with the talks, prove our desire for peace, and reveal to the world that Israel does not want peace. But does this solve the problem? No country in the world has been as condemned on the international level as Israel and yet it has not changed its policies and methods. Since all means have reached a deadlock this is the most important justification for the resistance.

We asked Dr. Velayati about his visit to Syria and his talks there. His answer was accurate and his words were chosen carefully. He said: The visit was good and the results of the talks with President Hafiz al-Asad and my friend Foreign Minister Faruq al- Shar' were extremely good. We highly appreciate the steadfast Syrian stand and its protection of Lebanon and its confrontation of Israeli designs. We must underline President Hafiz al-Asad's main and important role in establishing this principled course in resisting the Israeli aggression and confronting its expansionist designs.

Our last question was about the Iranian mediation efforts between Azerbaijan and Armenia. The Iranian foreign minister demonstrated his accurate diplomatic language giving more hints and suggestions than names. Velayati said: The two sides asked us to mediate. We carried out the mediation with enthusiasm and we achieved tangible progress. But there are factors and elements, including foreign countries (no names and details) [AL-SAFIR note] that do not want the two sides to achieve peace and tried to impede our task.

As far as we are concerned, the two countries' desire for peace represents the main factor. If Iran exerts its good offices on the basis of this desire, peace will be achieved and the mediation role must succeed provided foreign interference stops. All disputes will end only when peace has been established, but military actions will only generate catastrophes and destruction. [passage omitted]

Pakistan

Spokesman 'Regrets' Indian Minister's Statement

BK0806155592 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Pakistan has expressed surprise and regrets at the reported statement by Indian Home Minister S.B. Chavan in which he has not only accused Pakistan of assisting insurgency in India's northeast region, but also said that Pakistan's Inter-Service Intelligence is encouraging disturbances in India. A Foreign Office spokesman in Islamabad recalled that Chavan is leveling absolutely baseless allegations against Pakistan for last few months. The spokesman strongly reacted to Chavan's latest effort to involve Pakistan in Rajiv Gandhi's assassination. The spokesman said it is well known that India had trained the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam to carry out terrorist activities in Sri Lanka. It is extremely ludicrous that India instead of looking toward its own record of training terrorists is now accusing its peaceful neighbor.

The spokesman said Chavan's statement is apparently a part of India's well-known policy under which it blames neighboring countries for its failures. The spokesman added that such policies will make it difficult to create a congenial atmosphere for peaceful resolution of issues between the two countries.

Information Talks Held With Afghanistan Minister

Chakri Arrives in Islamabad

LD0806172192 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1430 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Esteemed Mohammad Siddique Chakri led a delegation to Islamabad on 7 June for an official visit. The delegation will meet relevant authorities on strengthening information and cultural cooperation between both Islamic countries and will sign protocols in these spheres. Esteemed Mohammad Siddique Chakri addressed correspondents on arriving in Islamabad and thanked the government and people of Pakistan for aiding the Afghan mojahed brothers during the 14-year jehad.

Media Cooperation Discussed

BK0806144292 Islamabad PTV Television Network in English 1400 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Pakistan and Afghanistan explored possibilities of cooperation in the field of information during two rounds of formal talks held in Islamabad today. Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Mr. Abdul Sattar Lalika and the acting minister for information and

culture of Afghanistan, Mr. Mohammad Siddique Chakri, led their respective sides. Mr. Abdul Sattar Lalika said Pakistan is keen to provide all possible assistance to Afghanistan, especially in the field of information. A technical committee formed after the first round of talks discussed ways and means to cooperate in the field of television, radio, films and publications. News agencies of both countries agreed to increase cooperation in the field of training and improvement of technical equipment.

Chakri on 'Deliberate' Reports

BK0806155992 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Mohammad Siddique Chakri, acting Afghan minister for information and culture, has said that the situation in Kabul is normal and the Western media reports on fighting between various Afghan groups are deliberate. In an interview with Radio Pakistan in Islamabad today, he said the Afghan leadership council is formulating a plan to merge all Afghan armed mojahedin groups into an Islamic armed forces.

The Afghan minister commended Pakistan's role in the Afghan jehad. He said the Afghan people and their future generations will never forget the generous hospitality of Pakistan. He also referred to the Pakistan-Afghan cooperation in the field of radio and television and emphasized the need for promoting these ties further.

Minister Vows Reconstruction Aid

BK0906033692 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0200 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Text] Federal Information and Broadcasting Minister Abdul Sattar Lalika has said that Pakistan will continue to assist in Afghanistan's rehabilitation and reconstruction activities. Addressing a banquet in honor of Afghan Information and Culture Minister Mohammad Siddique Chakri in Islamabad last night, he said the two countries, which are already tied with strong bonds of religion and culture, should further strengthen their relations. He said the media can play an important role in this regard. The federal minister said that they are looking forward to a meaningful cooperation in mass media.

The Afghan information and culture minister said the people of Afghanistan highly appreciate the way the government and the people of Pakistan had helped the Afghans in their hour of calamity and trial. Referring to the Kashmir issue, he said Afghanistan supports the rights of the Kashmiri brethren who are undergoing a period of hardship.

Sri Lanka

Curfew in North From 0230 GMT 10 Jun

BK0906144092 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 1400 GMT 9 Jun 92

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Jun (LANKAPUVATH)—A curfew will come into effect in Northern Sri Lanka with effect from 0800 hours local time [0230 GMT] Wednesday [10 June], except in the Vavuniya District, Mannar Island and the islands off the coast of Jaffna which are under the control of the security forces.

No-Confidence Motion Against Speaker Defeated

BK0906143892 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 1355 GMT 9 Jun 92

["OANA/pool" Item]

[Text] The no confidence motion against the speaker of the Sri Lankan parliament was defeated by a majority of 50 votes Tuesday [9 June]. Sixty eight MP's voted in favor of the motion and 118 voted against it.

Iranian Trade Delegation Departs Colombo 6 Jun

LD0606204592 Tehran IRNA in English 1516 GMT 6 Jun 92

[Text] Tehran, June 6 IRNA—A high power Iranian trade delegation led by minister of economic affairs and finance, Mohsen Nurbakhsh left Colombo today after successful trade talks with the Sri Lankan Government. The Lankan news agency LANKAPUVATH quoting official sources said Sri Lanka and Iran are to enter into an air agreement for the promotion of bilateral trade and facilitate contacts between the peoples of the two countries. Iranian commercial banks are also to be opened in Sri Lanka and a trade fair by Iranian producers is to be held in Colombo soon, it said.

At a reception held Friday for the Iranian delegation, Sri Lanka's Minister for Trade and Commerce A.R. Mansoor said the volume of trade between the two countries had increased during the last three years. He said Iran became the number one buyer of Sri Lankan tea in 1991, while Sri Lanka purchases about sixty percent of its crude oil from Iran.

The third session of the Sri Lanka-Iran joint commission on economic and technical cooperation was concluded in Colombo Friday. The leaders of the two delegations, Mansoor and Nurbakhsh signed a memorandum of understanding at the end of the trade negotiations between Sri Lanka and Iran.